

International Bank Note Society Journal



Simón Bolívar (1783-1830)...page 8

Volume 36, No. 3, 1997



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I.B.N.S. Journal

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President's Message



Last time I wrote the column I was complaining about the weather. I guess that is the most popular topic people talk about, apart from talking about bank notes...at least we

collectors do. The reason I wrote this column very very late—Steve Feller wanted it some time ago already—is the weather again.

Here in this part of the world, the Netherlands, we had the hottest August ever since records have been kept. For almost four weeks it was between 30° and 35° celcius every day! Almost 100° fahrenheit that is. It was even hotter under the roof where my office with my computer is. It is seldom just right.

By the time you read this, the summer holidays will be over and collector activities will be back to normal. I hope that some of you did take my advice and browse through coin-, antique-, collectors-, or stampshops, flea-markets, etc. and actually found something of interest, a bank note or so.

Unfortunately I was not able to be present in Memphis this year. I will try to do my best in 1998. I like going there since you meet so many nice and interesting people, fellow collectors and dealers, not just because one can find some good material offered there. I like the Saturday late evenings there, enjoying the good food and listening to live blues music in the old center. I'll be back one day.

London Congress is coming up again. This is where I hope to meet the majority of the Board and where we can get started again. Meeting all of them at once place and time will be a dream forever I guess. We all live too far apart.

If there are people out there, members who would like to become more involved in the organization of the I.B.N.S....and become a member of the Board, e.g.... it is never too soon to respond. Please come forward.

Enjoy the hobby...

Jos F. M. Eijssermans
President

Editor's Column



I write this the day before I leave for New York City and the American Numismatic Association convention.

Happily, I will be bringing daughter Rachel with me. Along these lines I am thrilled to announce that my daughter, the budding numismatist, won a \$500 prize for her writing skills. She placed third in the Professional Coin Grading Service's (PCGS) high school essay contest. Her essay, though not on paper money this time, was entitled *The Ambiguous Mintage of Confederate Coins*. I am proud of her, of course. I should also mention that many of our members tell me that they really enjoy Rachel's column for our Journal. I've even been called Rachel's Dad for my name! That makes me happy.

I enjoyed the Memphis show very much. I saw lots of friends including Larry Smulczenski, the newly-minted *Reverend* Lance Campbell, Fred Schwan, Ian Marshall, Murray Hanewich, Brian Geise, Milan Alusic, Neil Shafer, Gene Hessler (editor of our sister publication *Paper Money*) and many others. I believe that the bourse activity was very upbeat. Paper money is doing well. Brian and I went over to the new Memphis pyramid to see the exhibition on *The Titanic*. As is always the case in Memphis, this exhibition was first rate and I enjoyed it very much. I understand that next year the exhibition will feature ancient Peru. Lance and Brian and me enjoyed the requisite Butcher Shop steaks more than once! I did obtain one note for my collection of concentration camp currency. I hope to see many of you in New York, in St. Louis in the fall, and, of course, in Memphis next June. Conventions are fun to attend.

Steve Feller, Editor

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor.

I have recently lost registered mail, which I have sent to an Israeli I.B.N.S. member. The valuable contents were missing at the arrival. He had sent mail which never reached me at all, so it is totally gone. After this experience I write this good advice to the membership in handling such cases.

1) If you get mail with damaged or lost contents, please make your complaints immediately to your post office. They want to see your mail and get the register number for their OD investigation. Please tell your counterpart (the sender of the mail) about this, so the case can be taken up by the sender's post office. Everyone who knows that the mail is lost/damaged/plundered must be as fast as possible in complaining to the post office.

2) I encourage everyone who has a computer available to use e-mail to tell the receivers when mail is sent. The receiver should tell when the mail has arrived. If you do not have a computer, it will go by phone/fax or regular letter for telling that. If it takes too long for a registered/insured mail to reach the receiver, tell the receiver about this so it can be told to the post office quickly.

3) When you send a mail, think safety and pack it well and place your items inside the plastic envelope and wrap it inside your letter. Then place it in an envelope together with a piece of carton. After this you seal the mail with glue, as they do in Eastern Europe, and tape it well outside around the envelope there the thieves will look for a place to break inside it. You have then to write the receivers address carefully as you do with the senders address, so it will be easily read by anyone. After this you have to go to the post office and mail it there. Please keep your receipt, because misfortune will happen from time to time.

4) If you order some items you have to pay for it. Mostly it goes by trading items for items. But if you have to pay

for items by money as agreed in a certain currency, I suggest you use postal money orders. Exchange money to the agreed currency in the payments amount, and send it to the sender of the items. It will cost you a little more than mailing but it is much safer. I still have not acquired problems by postal money orders.

5) If you sell items to a number of clients in a certain country, you can open a bank account there, so your clients easily can go to the bank for paying the items. I know some dealers who do so.

If you have some questions about this, e-mail or mail me at my e-mail or mail address below or through the *I.B.N.S. Journal*.

At last but not least I will thank you for a brilliant magazine.

Sincerely yours.

Thomas Augustsson,

I.B.N.S. #7459

Harpsundsv=E4gen 58

S-124 58 Bandhagen

Sweden

E-mail:

thomas.augustsson@swipnet.se

Dear Editor

My article is on food coupons rather than bank notes, but your readers might be interested.

Sincerely,

Gary Snover, I.B.N.S. #LM-10

P.O. Box 9696

San Bernardino, CA 92427

Indochina Refugees' Food Coupons

Vietnam drove out much of its ethnic Chinese population after a border war with China in the late 1970s. Part of the flood of refugees was pushed over the northern border into three Chinese provinces. Yunnan, Guangdong and Guangxi. The Chinese Government did not allow the refugees into the cities, restricting them to remote farming communities. Food was rationed and ration coupons were issued for refugees in each province.

Yunnan Province: two coupons were issued (fig. 1).

1979 15 catties of food (grain, rice, etc.)

1979 0.5 catty cooking oil

A catty is a Chinese measure of weight equal to 500 grams. United Nations' aid in supplying the food and oil to the Indochinese refugees is specifically acknowledged on the back of each coupon. The red star government seal of the Yunnan Province Refugee Resettlement Committee is stamped on the back.

Guanadona Provinceu: four coupons were issued for different months (fig. 2).

1980 1st issue 30 catties of rice and 0.5 catty cooking oil, white

1990 2nd issue for the same, green coupon

1990 3rd issue for the same, yellow coupon

1990 4th issue for the same, red coupon

Guangdong Province's food rationing board issued these coupons, forbidding their use in the general Chinese population. Only refugees were allowed to redeem them at specific distribution centers. Four



Fig. 1

Yunnan Province food coupons for refugees

successive coupons were issued in different colors to identify different expiration dates.



Fig. 2
Guangdong Province food coupons
for refugees

Guanaxi Province: coupons were reportedly issued but they are not available to the author.

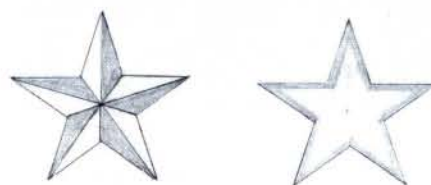
Dear Editor,

I am sending you two bank notes from Vietnam (P63a). I believe that they are two distinct issues (p62.63, etc.) The difference is in the watermark (see enclosed illustration please).

I hope it will be interesting and useful for collectors.

Sincerely,

Minhua Chang, I.B.N.S. #4761
503-31 Shan Jin Veizhai
Chang Nin Rd., Shanghai
20051, Peoples Republic of China



Two varieties of watermark seen on
2 dong notes of Vietnam.

Dear Editor,

Some readers of the *International Bank Note Society Journal* might be interested in the new bank notes of Ukraine in hryvni denominations—the first Ukrainian “hard” currency in the post-

Soviet period. Since their release in September 1996, their exchange rate has remained stable and varies between 1.80 to 1.90 to the US dollar. I am enclosing photographs and data on the notes released so far.

The notes, printed in Canada and England, are claimed to be virtually counterfeit proof and, according to the National Bank of Ukraine, boast eight different security features. They look and feel like “real” money, in contrast to the “karbovanets coupons” which circulated before them.

A note on spelling is in order: Because inscriptions on the notes are in the Cyrillic alphabet, which is also used in Russia, many transliterate them as if they were Russian inscriptions. Thus the currency unit “гривна” is often incorrectly transliterated as “grivnya.” The correct transliteration from Ukrainian is “hryvnia.” I am enclosing an amusing write-up from the *Financial Times* (London) on this subject.

I trust that this information will be of help.

Sincerely,

George M.J. Slusarczuk, Ph.D.,
I.B.N.S. #0758
Post Office Box 303
Southfields, New York 10975-0303

P.S. A peculiarity of the Ukrainian language, that is reflected in the write-up, is the double plural: The singular is “hryvnia.” The general plural is “hryvni,” which is also used for numbers up to four; but five and more is “hryven.”

Financial Times (London)
September 10, 1996

Chickening out

Once there was only the secret police. Now things are much tougher—we’ve got the language police.

Ukraine—where the Russian language dominates—now has a Commission for Legal Terminology, headquartered at the ministry of justice, where minister Serhei Holovaty wants to change the way Ukrainian names are written in the Roman alphabet.

The commission has ruled that

Ukraine's new currency must be called the "hryvnia." All other spellings—gryvna, hrvna or hryvna—are out. Holovaty's earlier cause, to force everyone to call the capital Kyiv rather than Kiev has at least forced embassies to order new stationary.

Kyiv is held to be closer to the original Ukrainian, whereas Kiev—which predates the very word Ukraine by several centuries—is alleged to come from the Russian.

Holovaty accepts little can be done about spelling in the Cyrillic alphabet, which both Ukraine and Russia use; Russians are off the hook.

No specific punishments are threatened against those who "do not conform to the state standards accepted in Ukraine" concerning linguistic usage, but it's in the early days. Even now, dissidents are probably forming a committee.

Ukraine—The Hryvni Issue introduced into circulation September 2, 1996



1 hryvnia 1992. Olive brown.
Kniaz Volodymyr the Great (956-1015), ruler of Rus'-Ukraine in Kyiv.
Ruins of Kheronesus
(5th century BC—10th cent. AD) on back.
Signature varieties: Hetman,
Matvienko, Yuschenko.

1 hryvnia 1994, 1995. Olive brown.
Kniaz Volodymyr the Great (956-1015),
ruler of Rus'-Ukraine in Kyiv.
Ruins of Kheronesus
(5th century BC—10th century AD) on back.



2 hryvni 1992. Red brown, Kniaz Yaroslav the Wise (986-1054), ruler of Rus'-Ukraine in Kyiv.
Cathedral of St. Sophia in Kyiv (built 1037-44) on back. Signature varieties: Hetman,
Matvienko, Yuschenko.



5 hryvni 1992. Blue. Bohdan Khmelnytskyi (1595-1657),
hetman of the Zaporozhian Kozak Host. St. Elijah's Church in Subotiv (built 1653) on back.
Signature varieties: Hetman, Matvienko, Yuschenko.



10 hryvni 1992. Purple. Ivan Mazepa (1639-1709), hetman of Ukraine. Kyivan Caves
Monastery (11th century AD) on back. Signature varieties: Hetman, Yuschenko.



20 hryvni 1992. Olive. Ivan Franko (1856-1916), writer, poet, journalist, Lviv opera house on back.
Signature varieties: Hetman, Yuschenko.



These notes were printed by TDLR. Wmk, on left, same as portrait.
Signature varieties exist.



continued on page 43

The definitive work on the bank notes issued in North Yemen, South Yemen and Unified Yemen is now available...

“The Bank Notes of Yemen”

Containing over 150 pages, this excellent new work by Peter Symes, Murray Hanewich & Keith Street contains detailed descriptions of all varieties of bank notes issued in Yemen (including many previously unrecorded), as well as faithful black and white reproductions of all bank note types.

Covering the issues of “The Yemen Currency Board,” “The Central Bank of Yemen,” “The South Arabian Currency Board,” and “The Bank of Yemen,” this work details the signature varieties, watermarks, serial number prefixes, dates of issue and the fluorescent features of all varieties—as well as the story of each issue. This work is a **must** for all those interested in Arabic bank notes.

Did you know ...

- There are nine signature varieties used on the notes of North Yemen—but only seven signatories?
- There are 29 different type notes issued by the Yemen Currency Board and the Central Bank of Yemen, but a total of 49 varieties?
- There are 9 different type notes issued by the South Arabian Currency Authority and the Bank of Yemen, but a total of 15 varieties?
- There are 7 different watermarks used on the notes of the Central Bank of Yemen?
- The Yemen Currency Board uses two serial number sequences and the Central Bank of Yemen uses four serial number sequences?

This valuable acquisition to any numismatic library will explain in detail the answers to all these questions and will provide explanations of the apparently strange sequence of issue for these notes.

Included in this work are explanations on:

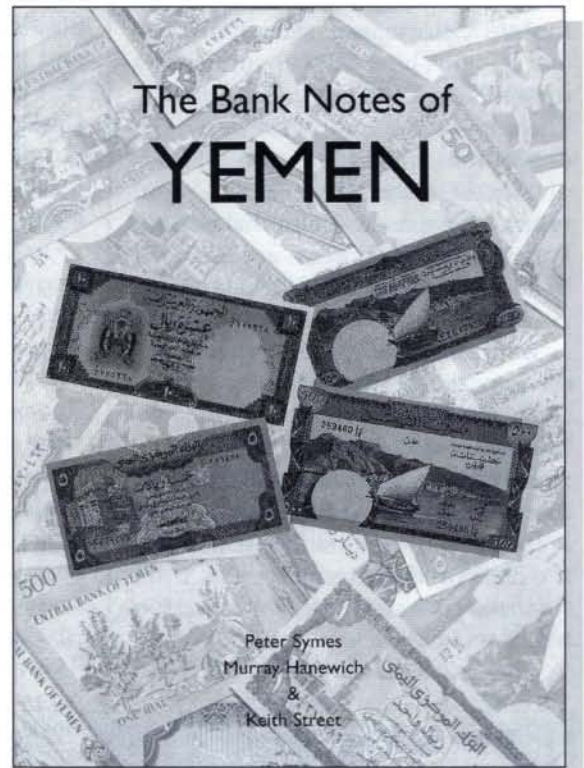
- the use of fluorescent inks on the bank notes issued in Yemen,
- the method behind selecting the letters for the serial number prefixes (they are not in alphabetical order), and
- descriptions of all the illustrations which appear on the bank notes (including identifying where much of the original artwork can be found).

The Bank Notes of Yemen is available by direct order from the authors in the nominated currencies:

Murray Hanewich,
Box 594,
Oyen, AB, TOJ 2JO
Canada
US\$27.00 + \$3.00 postage*

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Simón Bolívar (1783-1830)

by Christoph Schneider, I.B.N.S. #4496

I am sure that every collector of South American bank notes has a bank note bearing the portrait of Simón Bolívar in his collection. Bolivia is named after Simón Bolívar and the currency of Venezuela is the Bolívar. Who was that man? I guess that many fellow collectors do not know much about him. Recently I found a very good short biography about Simón Bolívar that I would like to share with you.

Biography of Simón Bolívar

"There have been three great fools in history: Jesus, Don Quixote and I"—this how Bolívar summed up his life shortly before he died. The man who brought independence from Spain to the whole northwest of South America—today's Venezuela, Colombia, Panama, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia—died abandoned, lonely and poor.

Ironically, the house in which he died had been offered to him by a Spaniard, Joaquín de Mier. It was de Mier, too, who donated one of his shirts to dress the dead body, as there had been none among Bolívar's possessions. The funeral, the coffin and the tomb were financed by a collection taken up by local citizens.

The Bolívar family came to the

New World from Spain in 1557. They first settled in Santo Domingo (today's Dominican Republic), but in 1589 moved to Venezuela, where they were granted a hacienda in San Mateo, near Caracas. The family was well off and steadily extended its possessions. One of the descendants, Juan Vincente Bolívar, acquired a town house in Caracas. He was 47 years old when, in 1773, he married 15-year-old María de la Concepción Palacios y Blanco. They had four children; the second child, born on 24 July 1783, was named Simón. Juan Vicente died in 1786 and María six years later. The boy was brought up by his uncle, Carlos, and was given a tutor, Simón Rodríguez, an open-minded teacher who—as it turned out—had a strong influence on his pupil.

In 1799 Bolívar left for Spain and France to continue his education. After having mastered French, he turned to that country's literature. The political views of Voltaire and Rousseau—his favorite authors—were influential.

In 1802, he married his Spanish bride, María Teresa Rodríguez de Toro, and not long after the young couple sailed to Caracas. The marriage lasted only eight months; María Teresa died of yellow fever. This marked a drastic shift in

Bolívar's destiny. He returned to France, where he met with revolutionary political leaders, and then travelled to the USA to get a closer look at the North-American experiences. By the time he returned to Caracas (1807) he was full of revolutionary theories based on these two successful examples.

At the time, disillusion with Spanish rule was on the point of breaking out into open revolt. Francisco de Miranda, the first patriot seriously involved in the independence movement, recruited volunteers in the USA, but this operation proved to be a failure. On 19 April 1810, the Junta Suprema was installed in Caracas and on 5 July 1811 the Congress declared independence. This was only the beginning, the declaration triggered a long, bitter war, most of which was to be orchestrated by Bolívar.

His military career began under Francisco de Miranda, in Valencia in 1811. After Miranda was captured by the Spaniards in 1812, his post was taken over by Bolívar. Over the next decade, he hardly had a moment to rest; battles followed each other with astonishing frequency until 1824. Of the battles personally directed by Bolívar, 35 were won. Of these, the major strategic masterpieces were the



Venezuela P-70—5 bolívares 1989

Simón Bolívar's portrait on the left side. On the right side the portrait of Francisco de Miranda who started the revolt against Spain. Miranda was captured by the Spaniards and died in a Spanish prison.



Venezuela P- 61—10 bolivares 1995

Simon Bolívar's portrait on the left side. On the right side the portrait of his close friend Marshal Antonio José de Sucre.

Battle of Boyacá (7 August 1819, which secured the Independence of Colombia) and the Battle of Carabobo (24 June 1821, which brought freedom to Venezuela).

Bolívar's long-awaited dream materialized: Gran Colombia, the unified state comprising Venezuela, Colombia and Ecuador came into being. He was elected president and Francisco de Paula Santander became vice-president. However, the task of putting the newborn country on its feet proved to be even more difficult than winning battles. Bolívar's glory slowly began to fade.

The main bone of contention was differences over the political organization of Gran Colombia. Bolívar strongly supported a centralized republic, while Santander favored a federal union of sovereign states. It soon became apparent that a central regime was incapable of governing such a vast territory, consisting as it did of three economically and

socially different countries. Furthermore Bolívar was off fighting for the independence of Peru and Bolivia, which meant that a large degree of power was left in the hands of Santander. The young state began to disintegrate from the moment of its inception.

Bolívar insisted on holding the weak union together, but matters began to slip out of his hands. His impassioned and vehement speeches—for which he was widely known—no longer swayed the growing opposition. As the dangerous separatist tendencies increased, Bolívar removed Santander from office by decree, and on 27 August 1828 he assumed dictatorship. This step did more harm than good. His popularity waned, as did his circle of personal friends and supporters. Shortly after, he miraculously escaped an assassination attempt in Bogotá. Disillusioned and in bad health, he resigned the presidency in

early 1830 and decided to travel to Europe. The formal disintegration of Gran Colombia was just months ahead.

After Venezuela separated from Gran Colombia, the Venezuelan Congress approved a new constitution—and irony of ironies—banned Bolívar from his homeland. A month later Antonio José de Sucre, the closest of Bolívar's friends, was assassinated in southern Colombia. These two pieces of news reached Bolívar before he was to board a ship bound for France. Depressed and ill, he accepted the invitation of Joaquín de Mier to stay in house, Quinta de San Pedro Alejandrino, in Santa Marta (Colombian Caribbean Coast). He died on 17 December 1830 of pulmonary tuberculosis. A priest, a doctor and a few officers were by his bed, but none of his close friends.

It took the Venezuelan nation 12 years to realize its debt to the man to whom it owed its freedom. In 1842, Bolívar's remains were brought from Santa Marta to Venezuela and deposited in Caracas' cathedral. In 1876, the remains were solemnly transferred to the National Pantheon, where they rest now.



Venezuela P-56 -500 bolivares 1972

El Libertador—as he was named at the beginning of the liberation campaign and is still commonly called today—was no ordinary man. An idealist with a poetic mind and visionary ideas, his goal was not only to topple Spanish rule but to create a unified America. This, of course, was impossible, nonetheless the military conquest of some five million sq km is an extraordinary accomplishment. This amateur strategist of genius won battles which still puzzle experts today. The campaign over the Andean Cordillera in the rainy season was, 100 years later, described as “the most magnificent episode in the history of war.”

Like any other great person, Bolívar has attracted the interest of numerous scholars, politicians, writers and artists. Innumerable works detailing various aspects of Bolívar's life and battles have been written and recorded on canvas. If one could gather together all the paintings of Bolívar, the collection would easily fill any of the world's largest museums.

The first account of Bolívar was written by his friend and companion on numerous campaigns, Daniel O'Leary. The most recent important contribution to Bolívar's bibliography is Gabriel García Márquez's *The General in his Labyrinth* (*El General en su Laberinto*), published in 1989. This novel, solidly based on fact, features the final months of Bolívar's life comprising his voyage from Bogotá to Santa Marta.

Many thanks to *Lonely Planet*, London, that kindly allowed me to reproduce their biography of Simon Bolívar from their *Lonely Planet Venezuela* travel guide.

Fiji's World War II Currencies: the Official Records—Part II

by Dr. K.A. Rodgers, LM 76

Continued from Volume 36, No. 2, pages 33-41

The Australian connection

In the event, the Governor decided the only way of securing adequate currency supplies was to have his own man on the spot. To this end he dispatched Captain Robertson by air to Australia. The first task was to explore the feasibility of having further currency printed there using plates supplied by the New Zealand Government Printer and paper supplies that existed in Australia.

As soon as word leaked out to Fiji's two trading banks of what was in the wind they made urgent representations to the Acting Financial Secretary, Hayward, to have Robertson cabled as follows:

THE BANKS STRONGLY URGE THE IMMEDIATE PRINTING OF AND INITIAL SUPPLY OF £500,000 FIJI CURRENCY NOTES STOP THEY CONSIDER £250,000 IN FIVES 50,000, ONES 100,000, HALVES 50,000, QUARTERS 50,000, SHOULD BE FORWARDED EARLIEST POSSIBLE MOMENT STOP BALANCE WILL PROVIDE IMMEDIATE RESERVE STOP FURTHER PRINTING PROBABLY NECESSARY LATER STOP.

Relationships between Commissioners and banks had always been ambivalent and bureaucrats worldwide are allergic to being told by any of the public not only what to do but also how to do it. Hayward politely but firmly declined concluding: “The Financial Secretary doubtless has the matter fully in hand.” Nonetheless the cable did reach Robertson upon his arrival although via the Commonwealth Treasurer in Canberra. Perhaps the

Bank of New South Wales found an elected representative in its own stamping ground more compliant, than a civil servant in a small colony. Whatever, the banks clearly feared that the Commissioners might err on the side of parsimony in placing any order.

In the event, Robertson was no slouch and on 29 June he was able to report that he was awaiting authority from New Zealand to have the Commonwealth Bank produce 300,000 RBNZ £1 notes and 300,000 RBNZ 10/- notes, amounts he'd settled on back in 26 June. It was proposed to use Portals Bond Paper and a new serial number. Hopefully, examples of notes showing the overprinting could be obtained from the Bank of New South Wales, but if such were not forthcoming Robertson was prepared to leave an overprinted fiver of his own. He had arranged for the notes to be conveyed by air to Fiji by Ensign Legge (US Naval Liaison Officer). Of £5 notes it was estimated £100,000 (20,000 pieces) would be required immediately of which a small quantity could still be obtained from New Zealand. However, he had not found it possible to obtain samples suitable for a 5/- note and he really felt that the Commissioners would just have to do best they could with what they had on hand. Further supplies would be ordered from the UK as soon as feasible.

These arrangements were confirmed the following day by the Australia's Prime Minister in a message to Fiji's Governor although, in the event, no £5 was printed in Australia. The PM agreed that the

proposed course of action was more expeditious and satisfactory than endeavoring to produce regular Fiji currency notes and on 1 July Latham, Actuary of the Commonwealth Bank who was Robertson's contact in Australia, confirmed that printing of 300,000 each of New Zealand 10/- and £1 overprinted notes was underway but using distinctive Commonwealth Bond Paper. This high quality security paper bears a repeating crown over "A" watermark and had been used for the production of Australian securities, war bonds and stamps.

Meanwhile gremlins continued to bedevil the New Zealand connection. On 4 July the Prime Minister of New Zealand telegraphed the Governor informing him that two further parcels of 20,000 overprinted forms would be dispatched by air to the Colonial Treasurer that day and that a further 30,000 forms would be ready within a day or two. The Governor responded three days later by asking for the 30,000 to be sent at earliest opportunity. Back came the Prime Minister the following day to say that Air Transport was trying to get the original 20,000 plus the extra 30,000 on a plane tomorrow. Reliable transport out of New Zealand in the middle of the war was clearly not always to be had, even when the highest authority in the land was asking for it. However, by 9 July the Currency Commissioners were able to confirm receipt of £20,000 in £1 notes, 6D 925001-945000, from the Reserve Bank of New Zealand. The remaining 30,000 took somewhat longer. They were dispatched by ship from Auckland and arrived on 16 July: £30,000 £1 notes 6D 945001-975000.

The slowness of the delivery of overprinted notes from New Zealand is demonstrated by the receipt of the next batch being dated 6 August 1942 when £50,000 overprinted £1, 6D 975001-6D 925000. At this point the Allies were about to fire the opening shots in a place called Gaudalcanal.

On 26 August Latham was able to cable Robertson that a US Army plane was on its way with 3 cases each of £1 FI/0 000,0001-060,000 and 10/- FX/0 000,001-060,000. No responsibility was to attach to the US Army should the boxes be lost in transit; they were, after all, providing their services for free. And on 15 September Bryson, the Assistant Actuary at the Commonwealth Bank, was able to give the good news that the SS *Hermion* was on the way with a further 15 cases including 10/- FX/0 060,001-324,000 and £1 FI/0 060,001-324,000.

For the record, the cost of the Australian printing came to £1884.8.0d with the 10/- note costing 43/6 per thousand, as opposed to the £1 at 9/6 per thousand. Transport costs from Melbourne to Newcastle and Sydney were £277.4.9d, including insurance. A third order of £5 notes had to be requested by the Governor from New Zealand on 13 October 1942. The Commonwealth Bank was reluctant to print the 20,000 notes required; the order was "to small a number for them." By this point of the war New Zealand must have managed to improve their throughput as the Prime Minister cabled the Governor on 28 October that 19,997 forms had been dispatched by air that day. These were notes 5K 831004-851000. The

Reserve Bank of New Zealand explained to the Financial Secretary that three forms 5K 831001-831003 had been spoiled in the printing and retained for destruction. The Governor advised the PM that he did not anticipate any further requests.

The total RBNZ costs of the second and third batch of forms from New Zealand was £441.7.9d including transport to Auckland. Printing the forms cost £277.116.0d while overprinting was £116.14.5d.

Caveat

In 1982 Brian Daly, an Auckland dealer warned against forged overprints of the £5 issues that were being offered in Auckland for \$NZ300 from a Fijian source. Unlike the real McCoy, these fakes carry the THOMAS DE LA RUE & COY. LTD. LONDON byline on the bottom of the notes' backs. This imprint had been erased from the plates prior to their being used by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia and, as such, is absent from genuine overprints. Daly considered the notes to be an opportunist product of a modern small scale operation in Fiji, having been approached some time earlier for quantities of first issue Reserve Bank of New Zealand £5s Le Feaux in any condition.

Specimen notes of all subsidiary issues are not uncommon. Thirty six were prepared of the 2/- issue and a similar number of the first 1/- issue might be assumed. Specimens of principal currency issues are extremely rare or non existent. The only examples known to the author are in Government archives.

The penny (and sixpenny) notes

The small change crisis that had

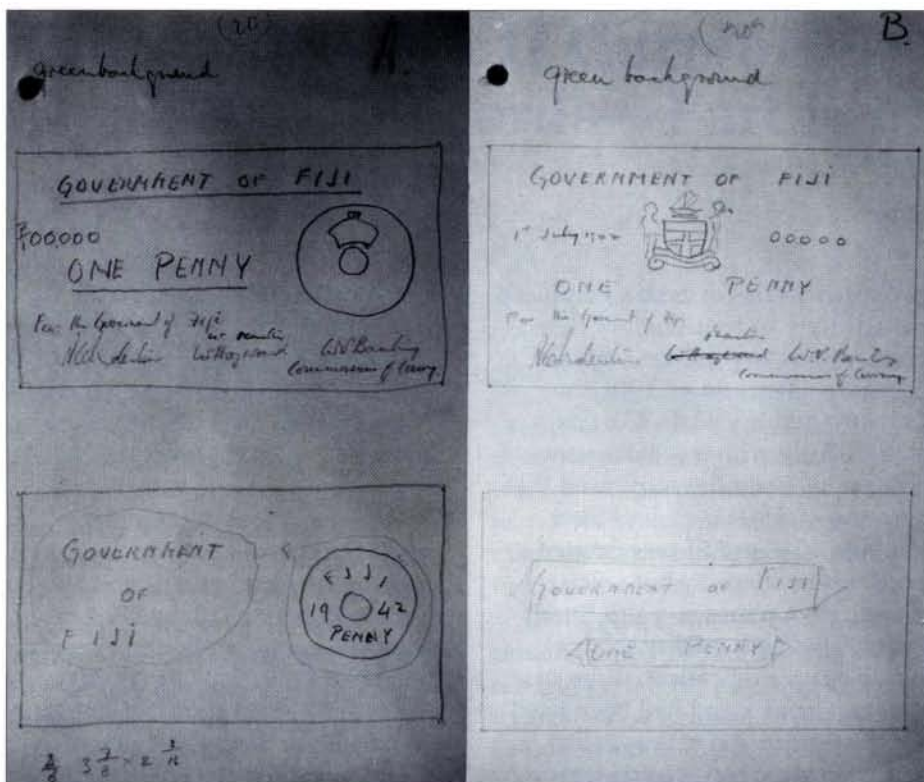
precipitated printing of the 1/- and 2/- notes was proving as intractable as that of the principal currency notes. It was a major reason for Robertson going to Australia. Upon his arrival he promptly acquired and dispatched by air one ton of Australian silver coins, including threepences, to help supplement the 1/- and 2/- note issue. However, it was a supply of pennies or a substitute that needed to be obtained at once.

Australia had insufficient for its own needs and would not be able to assist Fiji until later in the year. The situation in New Zealand was equally acute although they had said that they may be able to supply a few hundred pounds in copper coin if needed.

In a report of 29 June to the Governor via the Prime Minister of Australia, Robertson saw three solutions as possible:

- (1) an immediate supply of a substantial sum of imperial copper coin by air,
- (2) dispatch of the Hub for manufacture of cupronickel pence to a mint outside England and the immediate minting of one million coins which would then be dispatched by air,
- (3) the printing of further abundant supply of subsidiary notes in Australia if plates could be made a supply of suitable paper obtained.

Robertson clearly regarded the last as providing the quickest and most expedient option in the absence of the first being able to be fulfilled. The volume of coinage required at this juncture to provide some immediate relief was estimated as £5000 2/-, £5000 1/-, £5000 6d, £1000 1d with a supply of sixpences and pennies regarded as top priority. Robertson clearly believed that no UK coinage would be forthcoming and although the Secretary of State would be asked, he requested that Latham proceed with the preliminary steps necessary

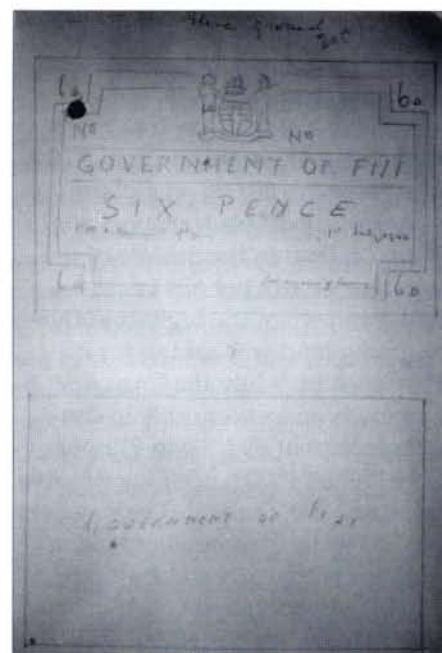


Sketches of potential one penny note designs made by Robertson for the Commonwealth Bank of Australia engraver. Robertson preferred A. (Reserve Bank of Fiji Archives).

for manufacture of the plates and paper purchase.

Throughout the entire crisis, Fiji's Governor would continue to both consult and inform his boss, the Secretary of State. However, Westminster's distance from the highly fluid Pacific action meant that the Secretary was always at least one, if not two steps behind the current state of play, particularly by mid-1942. For example, on 2 July, the Secretary enquired as to whether Fiji silver might not be minted in Australia, using Australian coin alloy if the necessary punches and specimens were forwarded by air. With Australian currency already needing to be minted in the USA, the Governor replied with a blunt "No...". But the Secretary's clear

lack of appreciation of the Pacific situation is shown by his request, in the same message, for the Governor to chase up, yet again, the possibility of having regular Fiji notes printed in Australia. Although



Sketch of proposed sixpence note design made by Robertson for the Commonwealth Bank of Australia engraver. (Reserve Bank of Fiji Archives).

consultation would continue, at least for form's sake throughout the war, the hard decisions would be taken by the officers in the field and any questions answered afterwards.

But always, in his reports Robertson was ever the soul of diplomacy and tact. Having concluded that there was really no alternative to printing penny notes, given the continuing small change situation, he allowed that it was hard for him to fully assess the position until he returned to the Colony, although, just in case it did prove necessary to produce them, he felt it important that he put in place, such arrangements for a minimum quantity of 1,000,000 in order for production to start promptly—if it was required!

Although I am unable to say whether the production of the penny notes will be necessary, I suggest that the note printer should be asked to prepare a design, and that the necessary plate should be manufactured. I am confident that the notes will be required and that they will be asked for urgently.

And just in case they might be required he had asked that they be

printed on Portals Bond Paper or the best quality available. The size of the paper used would to a large extent determine the size of the resulting notes. He had left a couple of rough designs to give the engraver something to work on and the eventual size would not be much smaller than either of the specimen designs. A green background had been suggested by the printers and

Robertson considered it sufficient for each note to be numbered once only. He had also left an existing regular currency note to enable appropriate signatures and the coat of arms of the Colony to be copied and was in no doubt that the US authorities would agree to despatch of the notes by air. He observed that he was content to leave the addition of "secret marks" to the printer.

Like the 2/- and second issue 1/- notes, the paper used is high quality standard white bond. It carries a paper manufacturers interrupted watermark that is not an integral part of any note. Fragments known to the author include the words "BRITAIN" and "EXTRA STRONG." The majority of the finished notes show no portions of this mark.

Regarding the notes legal tender

Robertson noted:

...from memory I think the Fiji Coinage Ordinance provides that cupro-nickel coin is legal tender for the payment of sums not exceeding 1/-. As the note is small, this can be omitted, and if it is found at a later date that some limit is necessary, I imagine it can be fixed by Defence Regulation.

Within 24 hours of writing his report, on 30 June, Robertson telegraphed Latham requesting immediate preparation of a plate and the ordering of sufficient appropriate paper. At the same time he deemed it prudent to put in place arrangements for a 6d note in case supplies were needed. In this case a blue background was chosen and again a rough outline by way of design was prepared with details being left to the engraver if and when a plate was needed. In the event, Robertson managed to scrounge £2000 of Australian sixpences for immediate delivery from "a special and secret source of supply" that may now be presumed to be the USA (Financial Secretary to the Colonial Secretary of Fiji 13 July 1942). A further £2-3000 in coin was promised in three months time and



Examples of illegal currency tokens issued by Suva merchants and a United States Armed Forces In Fiji (USA FIF) 1c canteen chit.



Examples of specimen and regular issue one penny notes printed in Australia by the Commonwealth Bank.

the notes were never printed-depriving future Fiji and World War II collectors everywhere of another prize.

Many a slip

Despite the thoroughness of Robertson's preparations, there was to be many a hitch between decisions taken at high level and their implementation on the shop floor. Only on 21 July was the Australian Prime Minister able to telegram the Commissioners to the effect that the paper had been purchased and that the plates were "practically completed." He added that, "delivery in Australia may be expected within a fortnight of receipt of a firm order." There appears to have been a breakdown in communication at such as senior level. Latham had already forwarded Robertson six finished penny note specimens on 16 July.

In a statement to the Secretary of State dated 28 July 1942, the Governor summarized the currency position as:

- overprinted £1 and £5 RBNZ notes had been issued;
- overprinted 10/- RBNZ would be issued shortly;
- all UK coin in Australia and New Zealand had been collected and issued;
- New Zealand and Australian coins had been released into circulation;
- a supply of Australian sixpences were to arrive soon and would be issued;
- £500 in Australian copper was to be supplied and issued.

Another £10,000 of United Kingdom coins had been dredged up by Australia and the Commissioners had now weakened to the point of allowing half crowns to become legal tender. Shortly thereafter Australian 6ds were legalized and, in his confirmation of order of the penny notes, the Governor asked if £500 of Australian copper might be obtained as a further interim measure and that

1941/1 request to put pennies and halfpennies in circulation United Kindom bronze coins legal tender

*The Treasury,
Suva, 25th July, 1941.*

NOTICE.

Owing to urgent demands made upon the Royal Mint, and more especially to shipping difficulties, there is a temporary shortage of pence and half pence in the Colony. Fresh stocks have been on order for a considerable time, and, pending the receipt of these supplies, it is considered that immediate local demands can be met if members of the public will assist by placing in circulation any pennies and half-pennies they may hold.

The shortage is due to war conditions and is only of a temporary nature.

A. R. W. ROBERTSON,
Financial Secretary and Chairman,
Commissioners of Currency.

Royal Gazette 41 (470)

further quantities be sent when they were available. In the event £500 was shipped direct from India on 22 July.

Even with these supplies, it was not enough. On 12 August, with still no sign of any Australian-printed notes, Robertson wrote to Latham that the situation in Fiji had become "fairly desperate":

We are struggling along as best we can and many merchants are issuing tokens in lieu of small change. It is of course illegal but we are taking no action. I think you will be interested to see one; I enclose one for threepence issued by Morris Hedstrom Limited; they issue a similar one for a penny. I am accumulating an interesting collection.

Comment had appeared in the Fiji Times of 11 August concerning these tokens and the apparent Government inaction over the crisis:

...Bad as the token system is it is not as annoying as the Post Office practice of giving halfpenny stamps in change which are more or less useless. Unless the Government can see some relief forthcoming it should issue its own paper pennies immediately, and, also, paper sixpences. They will be a terrible nuisance but not so great a nuisance as being without this unit of currency. The paper shilling and two shilling notes have worked reasonably well, particularly if one takes the trouble to improvise a small note

PROCLAMATION.

[No. 37 OF 1941.]

In the name of His Majesty GEORGE THE SIXTH, by the Grace of God of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

By His Excellency Sir HARRY CHARLES LUKE, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of Fiji.

[L.S.]

H. C. LUKE,
Governor.

WHEREAS it is enacted by section 10 of the Fiji Coinage Ordinance 1934 that the Governor, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, may by proclamation direct that any coins other than silver or cupro-nickel shall be current and be legal tender for the payment of any amount specified in the proclamation not exceeding five shillings:

And whereas the Secretary of State has approved the use of bronze coins of the United Kingdom as legal tender in the Colony for the payment of any amount not exceeding one shilling:

Now, therefore, I, in exercise of the said powers, do hereby direct that bronze coins of the United Kingdom be current in the Colony and be legal tender for the payment of any amount not exceeding one shilling.

Whereof let all men take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the Colony at Suva, this 22nd day of August, 1941.

By Command,

C. W. T. JOHNSON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.
F. 7/36.
GOD SAVE THE KING.

Royal Gazette 41 (508)

case in which to carry them, and if the penny shortage continues there will be no alternative but to print pennies. If it is the Government's intention to do so they should at best announce the fact now and save the expense and inconvenience the firms are being put to in printing tokens... All of which prompted an official response from Robertson explaining the arrangements currently in train. In his letter to the Times he included a specimen of the proposed penny note-to-be returned. Wide publicity and public anticipation followed.

The first shipment arrived along with the first Australian-produced currency note overprints on 26 August-some six weeks after Latham had authorized preparation of the plates. Three cases contained penny notes, P/1 000,0001-P/1

1942/1 Surcharged Reserve Bank of New Zealand notes
United Kingdom silver coins legal tender

DEFENCE (CURRENCY NOTES) REGULATIONS, 1942.

In exercise of the powers conferred upon me by the Emergency Powers (Defence) Acts, 1939 and 1940, as applied by the Emergency Powers (Colonial Defence) Order in Council, 1939 and the Emergency Powers (Colonial Defence) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1940, I hereby make the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Defence (Currency Notes) Regulations, 1942, and shall be read as one with the Fiji Currency Notes Ordinance 1933, hereinafter called the Principal Ordinance.

2. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Principal Ordinance, Reserve Bank of New Zealand Five Pound notes and One Pound notes surcharged as set out in the Schedule to these Regulations and issued by the Commissioners of Currency shall be deemed to be currency notes issued under the Principal Ordinance, and shall be legal tender in the Colony for the payment of any sum not exceeding their face value.

SCHEDULE.

Surcharge on Five Pound notes:—

"Government of Fiji. £5.
This note is legal tender in Fiji only."

Surcharge on One Pound notes:—

"Government of Fiji. £1.
This note is legal tender in Fiji only."

Made at Suva this 19th day of January, 1942.

H. C. LUKE,
Governor.

Royal Gazette 42(24)

DEFENCE (COINAGE) REGULATIONS, 1942.

In exercise of the powers conferred upon me by the Emergency Powers (Defence) Acts, 1939 and 1940, as applied by the Emergency (Colonial Defence) Order in Council, 1939 and the Emergency Powers (Colonial Defence) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1940, I hereby make the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Defence (Coinage) Regulations, 1942, and shall be read as one with the Fiji Coinage Ordinance 1934, hereinafter called the Principal Ordinance.

2. Notwithstanding any of the provisions of the Principal Ordinance it shall be lawful for the Commissioners to issue United Kingdom silver coins of any denomination.

3. United Kingdom silver coins issued under these Regulations shall be current in the Colony and be legal tender for the payment of any amount not exceeding forty shillings.

4. United Kingdom silver coins issued under these Regulations shall for the purposes of the Principal Ordinance be deemed to be Fiji coins and shall have the value denoted thereon and not the sterling value.

Made at Suva this 16th day of March, 1942.

F. 7/36.

H. C. LUKE,
Governor.

Royal Gazette 42 (103)

240,000. The remained were dispatched some three weeks later, on 15 September, along with the remainder of the overprints: P/I 240,001-P/I 1,000,000. The Japanese had crossed the Owen-Stanley Range and were now only 40 miles outside Port Moresby.

And, in the fullness of time, on 10 November 1942 to be exact, the Governor wrote to the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in Australia stating that one million penny notes were now in circulation and that for the moment, the small

The Treasury,
Suva, 6th June, 1942.

NOTICE.

ATTENTION is invited to the Regulations, entitled the Defence (Currency Notes) (No 2) Regulations, 1942, which have been published in the Royal Gazette, enabling the Commissioners of Currency to provide and issue low denomination currency notes.

2. This step has become necessary owing to the acute shortage of subsidiary coinage in the Colony notwithstanding the large expansion of the circulation since the outbreak of war.

3. In the first place the Commissioners propose to issue 2s. and 1s. notes and they will be placed in circulation in the near future. These notes will be legal tender for the payment of any amount not exceeding forty shillings.

A. R. W. ROBERTSON,
F. 7/36. Chairman, Commissioners of Currency.

Royal Gazette 42 (215)

1942/3 Australian silver coins legal tender
Yellow 2s notes issued
Tokens not legal tender

DEFENCE (COINAGE) (No. 2)
REGULATIONS, 1942.

In exercise of the powers conferred upon me by the Emergency Powers (Defence) Acts, 1939 and 1940, as applied by the Emergency (Colonial Defence) Order in Council, 1939, and the Emergency Powers (Colonial Defence) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1940, I hereby make the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Defence (Coinage) (No. 2) Regulations, 1942, and shall be read as one with the Fiji Coinage Ordinance, 1934, hereinafter called the Principal Ordinance.

2. Notwithstanding any of the provisions of the Principal Ordinance it shall be lawful for the Commissioners to issue Commonwealth of Australia silver coins of the denomination of sixpence.

3. Commonwealth of Australia silver coins issued under these Regulations shall be current in the Colony and legal tender for the payment of any amount not exceeding forty shillings.

4. Commonwealth of Australia silver coins issued under these Regulations shall for the purposes of the Principal Ordinance be deemed to be Fiji coins and shall have the value denoted thereon and not the Commonwealth of Australia value.

Made at Suva this 14th day of August, 1942.

P. E. MITCHELL,
S.F. 7/11. Governor.

Royal Gazette 42(306)

The Treasury,
Suva, 22nd September, 1942.

NOTICE.

With reference to the notice dated the 6th of June, 1942, published in Gazette No. 31 of the 9th of June, 1942, it is hereby notified that the Commissioners of Currency propose to issue a new series of one shilling notes. The notes have a yellow background and the serial letters "A" and "B."

2. The previous issue of one shilling notes had no background.

A. R. W. ROBERTSON,
Chairman, Commissioners of Currency

Royal Gazette (42 (408)

The Treasury,
Suva, 1st October, 1942.

NOTICE.

It has been brought to the notice of the Commissioners of Currency that tokens are being given in lieu of change. A large supply of penny notes has been issued by the Commissioners and ample supplies are available to meet all requirements.

The attention of the public is drawn to the fact that tokens are not legal-tender.

A. R. W. ROBERTSON,
Chairman, Commissioners of Currency.

Royal Gazette 42(434)

change position was reasonably satisfactory. Alas he was toying, ever so gently, with fate as he was under a regrettable, although understandable, misapprehension.

1943/1 Purchase of US dollars Australian coppercoins legal tender

[147] *The Treasury,
Economic Warfare Office,
Suva, 24th February, 1943.*

DEFENCE (FINANCE) REGULATIONS, 1940.

PURCHASES OF UNITED STATES DOLLARS.

PURSUANT to the powers vested in me by the Defence (Finance) Regulations, 1940, I hereby grant permission to any person not being an authorized dealer under Regulation 2 of the said Regulations to buy United States dollar notes subject to the following conditions:—

- (i) the purchase price shall not be less than five shillings and four pence in Fiji currency for each dollar note;
- (ii) all dollar notes so purchased shall be offered for sale within seven days of the date of purchase, at a price not to exceed five shillings and four pence Fiji currency, to an authorized dealer (i.e. a bank) in the Colony: provided that dollar notes may be given as change when dollar notes are accepted in payment for goods and services.

2. This Notice cancels the Notice dated 1st June, 1942, regarding the purchase of United States dollars.

A. R. W. ROBERTSON,
Financial Secretary.

Royal Gazette 43/147(44)

[727] PROCLAMATION.
[No. 7 of 1943.]

In the name of His Majesty GEORGE THE SIXTH, by the Grace of God of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India. By His Excellency Sir PHILIP EUGEN MITCHELL, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of Fiji.

[L.S.] P. E. MITCHELL,
Governor.

WHEREAS it is enacted by section 10 of the Fiji Coinage Ordinance 1934 that the Governor, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, may by proclamation direct that any coins other than silver or cupro-nickel shall be current and be legal tender for the payment of any amount specified in the proclamation not exceeding five shillings:

And whereas the Secretary of State has approved the use of copper coins of the Commonwealth of Australia as legal tender in the Colony for the payment of any amount not exceeding one shilling:

Now therefore I, in exercise of the said powers, do hereby direct that copper coins of the Commonwealth of Australia be current in the Colony and be legal tender for the payment of any amount not exceeding one shilling.

Whereof let all men take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the Colony at Suva this 2nd day of October, 1943.

By Command,

J. D. RANKINE,
S.F.C. 7/11, Acting Colonial Secretary.
GOD SAVE THE KING.

Royal Gazette (Supplement) 43/727(295)

1946/1 Extension of coinage and currency emergency regulations Trading in US currency

[LEGAL NOTICE No. 91.]

DEFENCE (FINANCE) REGULATIONS, 1940.

PURCHASES OF UNITED STATES DOLLARS.

The permission authorizing the purchase of United States dollars granted on 24th February, 1943, pursuant to the powers conferred by the Defence (Finance) Regulations, 1940, and published at page 44 of the 1943 Gazette, is hereby cancelled.

Dated this 26th day of April, 1946.

P. H. NIGHTINGALE,
Acting Financial Secretary.

EXPLANATORY NOTE.

The effect of this Notice is that, in accordance with Regulation 2 of the Defence (Finance) Regulations, 1940, no person may henceforth buy or sell United States dollars in the Colony other than from or to an authorized dealer (i.e. a bank), except with permission granted by or on behalf of the Financial Secretary.

Supplement to Royal Gazette 46/91(136)

1947/1 Currency notes

I assent.

[L.S.]

J. F. NICOLL,

Officer Administering the Government.

3rd December, 1947.

AN ORDINANCE

TO MAKE PROVISION FOR CURRENCY NOTES ISSUED UNDER THE DEFENCE (CURRENCY NOTES) REGULATIONS, 1942, TO REMAIN LEGAL TENDER AFTER THE 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

[1st January, 1948.]

BE it enacted by the Governor of Fiji with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Currency Notes Ordinance, 1947.

2. All currency notes duly issued by the Commissioners of Currency in pursuance of the Defence (Currency Notes) Regulations, 1942, shall, notwithstanding the expiry of the said Regulations, be deemed to be currency notes issued under the Fiji Currency Notes Ordinance.

3. This Ordinance shall come into force on the 1st day of January, 1948.

Passed in Council this twenty-fourth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and forty-seven.

Ordinances 1947/31(164)

[LEGAL NOTICE No. 127.]

FIJI CURRENCY NOTES ORDINANCE.
(CHAPTER 166.)

[L.S.]

J. F. NICOLL.

PROCLAMATION.
[No. 10 OF 1947.]

By His Excellency JOHN FEARNs NICOLL, Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Officer Administering the Government of the Colony of Fiji.

WHEREAS by section 7 of the Fiji Currency Notes Ordinance it is provided that the Governor may by Proclamation issued with the approval of the Secretary of State declare that any notes issued under that Ordinance shall cease to be legal tender:

And whereas the Secretary of State has approved the issue of this Proclamation:

Now therefore, I, in exercise of the said powers do hereby declare that all currency notes for any denomination less than five shillings shall cease to be legal tender from and including the 1st day of October, 1947.

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the Colony at Suva this 18th day of August, 1947.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

S.F. 7/11-2.

Supplement to Royal Gazette 47/127(114)

[LEGAL NOTICE No. 97.]

DEFENCE (FINANCE) REGULATIONS, 1940.
UNITED STATES DOLLARS.

GENERAL permission is hereby granted for any person to accept United States dollars in payment for goods and services: provided that such dollars shall be offered for sale to an authorized dealer (i.e. a bank) within seven days of the date of receipt thereof.

Dated this 10th day of May, 1946.

P. H. NIGHTINGALE,
Acting Financial Secretary.

Supplement to Royal Gazette 46/97(144)

[593]

DEMONETIZATION OF CURRENCY NOTES.

ATTENTION is invited to Proclamation No. 10 of 1947 which has been published in the Royal Gazette demonetizing the low denomination currency notes issued in the Colony in 1942.

2. The effect of this is that all 2s., 1s. and 1d. notes which were printed and issued as a war-time emergency measure will cease to be legal tender as from the 1st October, 1947.

3. Any person in possession of any of these notes should forthwith present them to one of the Trading Banks within the Colony for redemption before the 1st October, 1947.

W. V. BANTING,
Acting Financial Secretary,
Chairman, Commissioners of Currency.

Royal Gazette 47/593(272)

The coin crisis deepens: the San Francisco connection

The penny notes were all very fine but Robertson and the Governor were under no illusions that they were convenient for everyday use. Apart from their bulk, they lacked durability in Fiji's heat and humidity. Like the mix of imperial and Australian coin they were no more than a stopgap measure. In his negative rejoinder to the Secretary of State concerning the possibility of Australia striking Fijian coins, the Governor had added "...how about the USA?" This query may have been engendered by Robertson having been shown by Latham a specimen of San Francisco-minted Australian coin and, after all, it was the sheer number of US troops passing through and garrisoning Fortress Fiji that was helping magnify the crisis. The US military required an abundant supply of satisfactory, and preferably uniform currency for local use.

By 17 July 1942 there were indications that the Secretary of State was losing it. The finances of his distant colony would appear to have ceased to be a number one priority for him-or the Mother Country. He clearly lacked any awareness of the urgency of Fiji's situation. His cable to the Governor confirming that there was no prospect of any consignment of United Kingdom coins being sent by air arrived only in mid-July, two weeks after the request and with the penny note production underway. In the same message, he did confirm that he was exploring the possibility

of having Fiji coin minted in San Francisco but, for the interim, he had had a great idea: how about proclaiming US coins legal tender for six months at 10¢=6d, 5¢=3d, 1¢=1d? This could avoid having to print the 1d notes!!

Admittedly, it should be acknowledged that, along with the card tokens, an unknown amount of US coin was now in unofficial circulation in the Colony. Perhaps the Secretary was suggesting the this be tacitly acknowledged by the colonial authorities.

On 7 August 1942 the Secretary of State informed the Governor that the San Francisco Mint had agreed to undertake the work if suitable metals were released by the War Production Board. Nickel or tin would not (repeat would not) be released and the query was posed as to whether a copper-zinc alloy or zinc alone might be acceptable. At this point it was anticipated a part shipment might be supplied by air with the remainder by ship.

The Governor agreed to minting in San Francisco and to the suggestion of a brass alloy. He asked that master hubs for all of the Fijian coins be forwarded by air immediately.

However, another month was to elapse before a firm order was placed on San Francisco via Washington, for both the well known brass pennies and halfpennies as well as sixpences, shillings and two shillings which would be struck in the same alloy as the current US silver coinage.

Another month went by and it

was early October before Lord Halifax, British Ambassador in Washington, was able to telegram the Governor to the effect that "work on coins should begin this week'.... "striking of coins should take only a few days"... "trying to arrange air transport ". Halifax had been the major player in moving hubs across the Atlantic and in gaining US Government approval for use of metal supplies. The Governor responded promptly and requested that the 250,000 shillings be sent immediately to be followed as soon as possible by the sixpences.

Unfortunately, the Governor was persisting to count his chickens before they were well and truly hatched. On 13 October he told the Prime Minister of Australia that given the coinage supplies on their way from the USA, Fiji would not require any further Australian bronze or sixpences, nor any further United Kingdom coins. However, on 21 October Halifax cabled that no air transport was to be had at any price. With the Battle of the Solomons now in full swing and the tide turning rapidly in New Guinea, air cargo space for supply of Fiji coin was not a top priority.

And so another month was to go by...and another...and not a brass farthing was to be seen in Suva...although expectations continued to run high. A stock take of 18 November, reported the vault as very congested "given the imminent arrival of coin at any moment from America." The arrival the Commissioners awaited was the transport Normac Sea.

The Bank Notes of the Qatar and Dubai Currency Board.

by Peter Symes, I.B.N.S. #4245

Qatar and Dubai are two Arab states in the Persian Gulf who are now linked to separate destinies, but for a period of years they shared a great deal in common—both being members of the Trucial States. Towards the end of that period in which they shared membership of the Trucial States, they joined to establish a common monetary union and for a period of six years they shared a common currency. To understand how the brief monetary union between Qatar and Dubai came into being, it is first necessary to understand the association of sheikdoms that became known as the Trucial States.

The loose association of states which bore this title originated in the coastal tribes of the Persian Gulf which had signed "Perpetual Treaties of Peace and Friendship" with Great Britain. These treaties were the result of Great Britain seeking to stop piracy in the Gulf, and to subdue what was known in the early nineteenth century as the "Pirate Coast."

The first major effort of the British to subdue the pirates of the Gulf occurred in 1805 when a fleet was sent from India. While this force was able to drive the tribes of the coast

into signing treaties with the British, the treaties were unable to be enforced due to the lack of a policing garrison. A number of expeditions to the area in the next fifteen years convinced the British that they needed to establish a base in the area, to ensure that all treaties were observed. To this end a force was subsequently stationed at Ras al Khaimah.

In 1853 the British signed perpetual maritime treaties with each of the rulers of the coastal tribes, in which they undertook to protect the people from external attack. These treaties were with the states that today form the United Arab Emirates, and following the signing of the treaties the area became known as Trucial Oman, or the Trucial States. In 1892 the links with Great Britain were strengthened, with each sheikdom signing a treaty which made them a British protectorate and which gave the British control of their defence and foreign affairs.

The sheikdoms of the "Pirate Coast" had become the Trucial States in 1853, but the number of states falling under the tutelage of the British later increased—with Bahrain joining the protective federation in 1861 and Qatar in 1916.

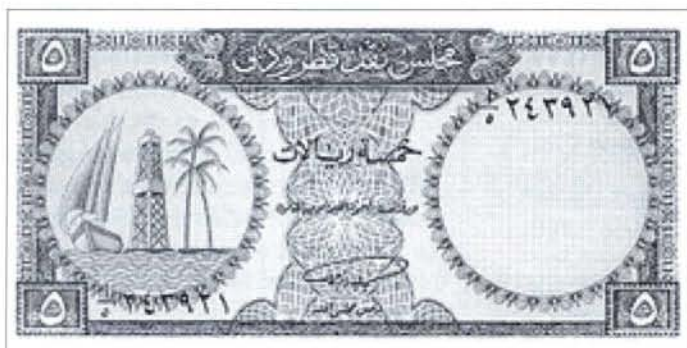
The association between the Trucial States and Great Britain continued well into the twentieth century, with Britain providing assistance and guidance during the economic decline of the pearling industry—the former mainstay of the states' economy—through to the discovery of oil and the economic prosperity which followed. However, by the middle of the twentieth century Britain was divesting herself of her colonial past and in 1968 she gave three years notice of her intention to withdraw her presence from the Gulf.

This notice was not sudden, and the British had taken care to provide an environment in which the states of the Gulf could move smoothly from the protection of the British to the full sovereignty of independent states. Evidence of this endeavour can be seen in the development of currency in the Gulf region.

For many years the Indian Rupee had circulated in those states in the Persian Gulf that were under British tutelage, but in 1959 the "External rupee," or Gulf rupee as it became known, replaced the Indian rupee as the official currency in the Trucial States. The Gulf rupee was the result of an administrative decision



Face and back—1 riyal



Face and back—5 riyals

by the government of India to isolate the internal accounting of their own currency from those areas which were still controlled by the British.

Efforts to encourage the Trucial States to take further responsibility for their economic future led to the signing of the Arabian Gulf Currency Agreement on 7 July 1965 by Qatar, Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Bahrain. Under this agreement a monetary union was to be formed and a common currency introduced for circulation in each state. However the implementation of this agreement became frustrated—so Qatar and Dubai decided to form their own monetary union, signing the Qatar-Dubai Currency Agreement on 21 March 1966. The agree-

ment provided for the introduction of a common currency for the two states and the establishment of a Currency Board.

The Currency Board

The Qatar and Dubai Currency Board was responsible for issuing and managing the new currency, and for maintaining the external reserves which backed the currency. There were five directors of the Currency Board, with each state providing two directors, while the fifth director was to be an expert in banking and finance from a country outside the Gulf. The five directors appointed to the Board (and who remained in office during the entire life of the Currency Board) were: Khalifa Bin Hamad Al-Thani

(Chairman), Maktoum Bin Rashid Al-Maktoum, Hassan Kamel, Mohamed Mahdi Tajir, and Z. Sieminski.

The Board was located in the Old Government House in Doha (the capital of Qatar) where the manager and staff undertook the day-to-day business of the Board. The first manager of the Board was Mr. P. H. C. Brader, who was succeeded in turn by Mr. D. S. Lewis, Mr. W. G. Balfour, Mr. L. P. Tempest and Mr. M. M. Al-Majed. Agents for the Board were the Qatar National Bank and the National Bank of Dubai.

While the Board was a joint venture between the two member states, Qatar was without doubt the senior member of the Board. This seniority can be seen in that the



Face and back—10 riyals



Face and back—25 riyals

Board was located in Doha, the chairman of the board was from Qatar, and there was a greater circulation of notes in Qatar than in Dubai. However the telling point in the seniority of Qatar is that, although the original agreement stipulated that the backing for the currency, and the deficiencies and profits from the Board should be shared between both states, a subsequent agreement signed on 29 October 1966 made Qatar solely responsible for the finances of the Board. This agreement was made to favor the government of Qatar, because it had undertaken the responsibility of depositing £5,614,473 with a number of banks in London to cover the entire currency issue. As it had taken this responsibility, it also took the responsibility for profits and losses.

The Bank Notes.

Under the Qatar-Dubai Currency Agreement, the new currency to be introduced was to be called the "Qatar and Dubai Riyal." It was defined to be equivalent to one and

a half shillings sterling, have a parity of 0.186621 grammes of gold, and it was to be divided into one hundred dirhams. Orders for new coins and bank notes were placed with the British Royal Mint and Bradbury Wilkinson and Company Limited immediately after the signing of the Currency Agreement. However the situation in Qatar and Dubai was thrown into turmoil when the Indian rupee was devalued on 6 June, some months before the new currency could be delivered.

The devaluation of the Indian rupee had a flow-on effect to the Gulf rupee, and in order to protect their economies from the problems brought by the devaluation, the governments of Qatar and Dubai promised that when possible, the Gulf rupees would be exchanged for the new currency at pre-devaluation rates. However in order to halt speculation in Gulf rupees, it was deemed prudent to withdraw them from circulation in the two sheikdoms as soon as possible. To this end an agreement was made with

the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency to borrow one hundred million Saudi Arabian riyals to provide a circulating currency prior to the arrival of the new Qatar and Dubai riyals.

Consequently the Gulf rupees were withdrawn from circulation towards the end of June 1966 (ceasing to be legal tender in Qatar and Dubai shortly after), and Saudi riyals entered circulation. The use of Saudi riyals by Qatar and Dubai continued for a number of months, but by mid-September 1966 sufficient notes had been delivered from Bradbury Wilkinson and Company to allow the release of the new currency. So, on 18 September 1966, Qatar and Dubai riyals were made available to the public in exchange for Saudi riyals. The exchange rate for the replacement of Gulf rupees by Saudi riyals had been 100 Saudi riyals for 106.5 Gulf rupees; and the new currency was now exchanged at the rate of 106.5 Qatar and Dubai riyals for 100 Saudi riyals. The total value of new bank notes placed in circulation during the period of



Face and back—100 riyals

exchange was 73,944,065 Qatar and Dubai riyals.

The notes issued by the Qatar and Dubai Currency Board consisted of six denominations, these being one, five, ten, twenty-five, fifty and one-hundred riyals. The notes are all similar in design but each denomination increases in size with its value, and each denomination has different colors. The common design for the face of the notes consists of a vignette of a dhow, oil rig and palm trees enclosed in a circle to the left, while to the right is a circle, of the same size as that surrounding the vignette, which holds a plain area suited for viewing the watermark. The watermark for each denomination is a falcon's head, and a solid security thread runs vertically through the notes at left of centre.

The text on the face of the notes is written in Arabic and is split into four areas. In a panel at the top of the notes is the title of the issuing authority—"The Qatar and Dubai Currency Board." In the centre of the note is the value of the note in words, under which appears the legal tender clause. Finally, at the lower centre is the signature, which is that of Khalifa Bin Hamad Al-Thani, and his designation, which is "Chairman of the Currency Board." (The signature is printed in black, while the designation is part of the plate printing.) The value of each denomination appears in small panels on each corner of the notes. On the back of each note the title of the Currency Board is written in English across the top of the note, with the denomination appearing in numerals in the centre and in the top two corners. Each back carries an ornamental boss (which is distinct between denominations) and patterned lines. Note specific descriptions are:

One rial

Size: 110mm x 55mm

Colors: Face—Green intaglio printing, with a lithographic underprint of

tinted vertical bands of green, red, violet and green (from left to right) and a multicolored boss extending from top to bottom in the centre of the note. Back—Lithographic printing of green and violet.

Five riyals

Size: 120mm x 60mm

Colors: Face—Deep violet intaglio printing, with a lithographic underprint of tinted vertical bands of purple, green, orange and purple (from left to right) and a multicolored boss extending from top to bottom in the centre of the note. Back—Lithographic printing of deep violet and brown.

Ten riyals

Size: 130mm x 65mm

Colors: Face—Blue-grey intaglio printing, with a lithographic underprint of tinted vertical bands of brown, blue, green and brown (from left to right) and a multicolored boss extending from top to bottom in the centre of the note. Back—Blue-grey intaglio printing.

Twenty-five riyals

Size: 140mm x 70mm

Colors: Face—Blue intaglio printing, with a lithographic underprint of tinted vertical bands (incorporating a relief pattern) of blue, orange, green and blue (from left to right) and a multicolored boss extending from top to bottom in the centre of the note. Back—Blue intaglio printing.

Fifty riyals

Size: 150mm x 75mm

Colors: Face—Red intaglio printing, with a lithographic underprint of tinted vertical bands (incorporating a relief pattern) of red, green, blue and red (from left to right) and a multicolored boss extending from top to bottom in the centre of the note. Back—Red intaglio printing.

One-hundred riyals

Size: 160mm x 80mm

Colors: Face—Olive green intaglio printing, with a lithographic underprint of tinted vertical bands (incorporating a relief pattern) of brown, red, grey-green and brown (from left to right) and a multicolored boss extending from top to

bottom in the centre of the note.

Back—Olive green intaglio printing.

The serial numbers for all denominations consist of a prefix of the Arab letter alif over a number, followed by a six digit number. All serial numbers are printed in black and all numerals in the serial numbers are Arabic numerals. The serial numbers appear in the top right and bottom left of all denominations except the one rial, where a single serial number appears in the centre of the note below the title of the issuing authority.

Specimen notes were prepared for the issue and these have several identifying features. The specific features being:

- the serial numbers have a prefix of "alif" over one and the six numerals of the number are all (Arabic) zeroes.
- the signature has been hole-punched, and
- the word "Specimen" appears in English in the bottom right and in Arabic in the top left on the face of the notes; and again in English and Arabic in the centre on the back of the note.

The notes issued by the Qatar and Dubai Currency Board continued to circulate in Qatar and Dubai for a number of years. When Qatar became a sovereign state on 2 September 1971 and Dubai achieved independence as a member of the United Arab Emirates on 2 December 1971, the issue and circulation of the notes continued. However, on 9 May 1973, Qatar and Dubai signed an agreement to terminate the Qatar-Dubai Currency Agreement of 1966. Under the new agreement the recently established "Qatar Monetary Agency" took over the assets and liabilities of the Currency Board with effect from 19 May 1973.

Thus ended the short history of the Qatar and Dubai Currency Board. During its service to the states of Qatar and Dubai it had an uneventful, although extremely successful existence. A part of the process of transformation from colonial to independent govern

ment, the notes of this short-lived authority are now demanding a premium, as few notes have survived in any condition, let alone the

uncirculated condition preferred by collectors. For those who do possess a piece of this history, the notes are greatly prized.

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Qatar and Dubai Currency Board (1968-73) *Annual Report* (years ending 1967 to 1972) Q.D.C.B.: Doha, Qatar.

Rickman, Maureen (1987) *Let's visit Qatar*. Macmillan: Houndsmill, Basingstoke (UK)

The following chart gives the number of notes in circulation for each denomination at 31 December for each year that the Qatar and Dubai Currency Board operated.

	1 QDR	5 QDR	10 QDR	25 QDR	50 QDR	100 QDR
1966	1,722,397	578,901	963,993	181,372	240,015	540,831
1967	1,984,504	606,864	1,223,372	118,956	242,599	975,911
1968	2,476,425	705,276	1,388,593	90,609	229,594	1,119,159
1969	3,057,390	733,140	1,346,170	86,207	221,571	1,182,799
1970	3,184,572	742,372	1,307,225	83,037	206,419	1,182,483
1971	3,348,727	857,804	1,490,146	85,997	198,058	1,384,576
1972	3,884,915	996,876	1,847,089	100,425	216,518	1,894,951

From this chart it can be seen that while the one, five, ten and one-hundred riyal notes proved popular and increased in circulation over the years, the use of twenty-five and fifty riyal notes decreased after the initial release.

While the distribution of these notes between Qatar and Dubai is not known, of the new currency issued in exchange for Saudi riyals in September 1966, 64% was issued in Qatar and 36% in Dubai.

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History on the Back of the Syrian 500 Pounds Note

by Christof Zellweger, I.B.N.S. #LM-86

The back of the current Syrian 500 pound note is dedicated to the ancient city of Ugarit, now known as Ras Shamra. Ugarit has been a Phoenician cultural centre and capital of an empire which included about 90 places in the 14th century BC. In 1928 a farmer found the first discovery while plowing a field. French archaeologists under the direction of F. A. Schaeffer have made excavations from 1929-1939 and again from 1948 on, where numerous valuable discoveries have been made, such as graves, temples, statues of gods, weapons, tools, pottery and ivory carvings. Of highest significance are literary discoveries—Egyptian or Minoian hieroglyph texts besides Hethitian and Akkadian cuneiform charts. Above all in import are Ugaritan script monuments which have been written in a previously unknown, alphabetical cuneiform writing. A consonant script by its own developed in Ugarit (like in Byblos), which reduced the extensive syllable system of the Sumerian cuneiform writing to thirty signs.

The site is about 10 miles north of Syria's current main port of Lattakia near the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. Today there are only a few new houses outside the excavation field. From the city there are only the lower parts of the walls still standing, including some intact cellars which can still be visited today.

Two of the discoveries made in Ugarit can be seen on the back of the current Syrian 500 pound note (Pick 105). To the lower right is a cuneiform chart shown. This is said to be the first alphabet in the world which shows all the used cuneiform letters in alphabetical order (15th century BC). The original can be seen in the Syrian National Museum in Damascus. The color of the rock is black. Unfortunately, the original can only be viewed through a magnifying glass, as it is really small.

The second item shown on the note is a golden bowl engraved with Egyptian, Syrian and Mycenaean subjects



Back of Syrian 500 pound note.

(1450-1365 BC), from the Schaeffer excavation.

The original bowl can be seen at the Aleppo Museum in Aleppo, Syria.

I hope that I have been able to give to collectors some interesting information on what can be seen on this 500 pound note.



picture above enlarged from original note

Reference:

Lexicon of the Bible by Brockhaus Verlag, Wuppertal, 9th edition 1983

Standard Catalog of World Paper Money, Krause Publications, Iola, WI, Vol. 3, 2nd edition, 1996



ABC Stone—
shown above is this cuneiform chart mentioned above
(enlarged from original note)

Paper Money Reflections of the Rothschild Dynasty

Part III: The World Wars

by Harold Levius, I.B.N.S. #657

By the end of the nineteenth century only English, French and Austrian branches remained out of the original five Rothschild houses. The English Rothschilds helped to finance Cecil Rhodes' De Beers Diamond Mines in South Africa and other gemstone mines in India and South America. The French Rothschilds were active in the Mediterranean Railway and North Africa and played a major role in developing the Russian oil fields to the extent that they briefly rivaled Rockefeller's Standard Oil. The Austrian Rothschilds branched out into Hungary and issued a vast loan in 1881. King Leopold I of the Belgians made a fortune through his investments with the French house.

Lionel's heirs to the British House

Lionel's three sons attended Trinity College at Cambridge University where they became friendly with Edward, the son of Queen Victoria and future king of England. The three brothers were joined by their Austrian cousin, Ferdinand who built a grand mansion on a tract of land he acquired from the Duke of Marlborough. Queen Victoria was impressed with the estate and it's owner and the family's relationship with her combined the roles of financial advisors and friends.

In 1885 Lionel's eldest son Nathaniel became the first practicing Jew to take a seat in the House of Lords. His induction must have been one of the strangest ceremonies yet witnessed in that august chamber. Here, for the first time, a peer of the realm was swearing allegiance to his sovereign on the Jewish bible with his head covered in a religious format thousands of years older than British ecumenism.

In those days, when an Englishman was elevated to the peerage he usually adopted an aristocratic name in honor of one of the infinite number of charming English localities with which he was associated. Nathaniel chose to be called Nathaniel Mayer Lord Rothschild in homage to his orthodox ghetto lineage. He openly championed the cause of his co-religionists who were persecuted under the tzar by closing the doors of his bank to financial missions from St. Petersburg. When the Russian Revolution of 1918 broke out his bank was spared the severe losses suffered by other banks that nibbled at the tzar's bitter fruit.

Lionel's second son, Alfred, was a director of the Bank of England for twenty-one years. He was particularly

friendly with Lord Kitchener and when Disraeli died he was at the bedside. There is an unsubstantiated story that the ex-prime minister, who was baptized out of the Jewish faith at the age of twelve, died with the final Jewish rites on his lips. If Alfred knew the truth of this story he never disclosed it.

The third son Leopold had a passion for horse—especially the racing kind. His other passion was philanthropy and he became known as the welfare minister of New Court, the Rothschild business headquarters. The more races his horses won, the more money he would donate to charity.

Nathan was trustee to Disraeli's deceased estate. On going through the late statesman's papers he found a batch of personal letters from Victoria. Nathan sent the letters to King Edward, who is presumed to have burned them without leaving any trace of their contents. Edward seemed to appreciate the gesture. When the King next met his Russian cousin, the tzar, he obtained a promise of relief from the anti-Jewish pogroms. This was too late as a new Frankenstein was created shortly thereafter in the form of the Russian Revolution.

The British banking crisis of 1890

In 1886 another Bank of England crisis started to brew.



Bank of England £5: 1888 (P.46)

At the time that this note was issued, this was the smallest denomination issued by the Bank of England. The Bank of England was still unaware of the tremendous crisis that was building up due to the continued default of the Argentine government in its obligations to Baring Brothers which was the oldest bank in England. By 1890 the crisis was so grave that it was beyond the ability of the Bank of England to save Barings. Finally the Rothschilds led the joint-stock banks of London in taking over the enormous liabilities of the Baring bank.

Baring Brothers, the oldest London merchant bank invested heavily in Argentinean and other foreign loans. In 1890, the Bank of England learned that Barings had underwriting liabilities in excess of twenty million pounds. Barings had no prospect of covering these debts and their failure would drag other banks and the entire financial standing of the City with them. The Bank of England and the financial community of the City could not raise sufficient sums to prevent a catastrophic chain reaction. The Rothschilds were the only merchant bankers in London who were larger than Barings, but the financial community were certain that they would not come to the rescue of their most active rivals. They were wrong. Lord Nathan and his cousin Alphonse in Paris with the cooperation of the Bank of France added their signatures to the list of guarantors. The Bank of England announced that Barings would liquidate all its obligations. London's financial stature remained unshaken. When the governor of the Bank of England came to thank all who had so cheerfully assisted in the problem he particularly acknowledged the Rothschild place in the rescue.

Lord Nathan's eldest son, Lionel, studied natural history at Cambridge. His interest became a passion and his collection of stuffed animals became so large that it strained even the finances of a Rothschild. He was forced to take out loans which he secured on an insurance policy on his father's life. His father found out about his son's chutzpa (impudence), but it did not affect the family unity because of their mutual interest in natural sciences. Lionel went on to become the first in a series of respected Rothschild scientists and eventually inherited his father's title.

The three sons of Anselm of the Austrian House

Albert succeeded to the management of the bank. He and his brother Nathaniel divided their time between business and non-business pursuits. Albert became the fourth person to survive an ascent of the Matterhorn. Vienna gained a botanical garden, hospital and several institutes for the disabled from their philanthropy. Ferdinand became a British subject and was elected to parliament. He married Elvira, one of his English cousins. She died in pregnancy and he assuaged his grief by establishing the Elvira Rothschild Hospital for Sick Children in London and a school named after her in

Jerusalem.

Albert died before World War I. His son, Louis, took over the management of the Austrian bank while his other sons enjoyed their playboy status until matrimony put an end to that. Their marriages produced no sons ensuring the end of the Austrian dynasty. Besides attending to his duties at the bank Louis found time to study plant and human anatomy. He was also interested in equine anatomy—becoming a huntsman, Lipizzaner rider and polo player.

After the War Austria, which was on the losing side, fell upon hard times. One of the Rothschild competitors, Castiglione took the opportunity of speculating on the fall of the Austrian Krone. Rothschild refused to speculate against the government with which his family had been associated for so long, resulting in a drop of the Rothschild fortunes as well. Castiglione then started to speculate against the franc causing serious implications for the Bank of France of which Edouard Rothschild was a director. The family banks in Paris and Vienna, with J. P. Morgan in America, suddenly off-loaded sterling to the advantage of francs. Castiglione was taken by surprise and went out of business.

In 1930 Austrian agricultural finance became chaotic. The chancellor compelled Louis, against his advice, to take over the liabilities of the agricultural bank. Louis' Creditanstalt was the largest bank in Austria, but could not cope with the vast amount of obligations that had



Austrian 50,000 kronen: 1922 (P.80)

At the outbreak of World War I the highest denomination Austrian bank note was for 100 kronen. The massive denomination of this note reflects the struggle to contain the Castiglione speculation against the Austrian currency.



Austrian one schilling: 1924 (P.87)

Following the Bank of France-J. P. Morgan-Rothschild assistance, a currency reform fixed 10,000 krone at one schilling. The new schilling remained stable for over twenty five years. Being on the losing side, Austria and the Austrian Rothschild bank were reduced to a fraction of their former wealth, but were spared the depth of the extreme hyperinflation suffered in Germany.

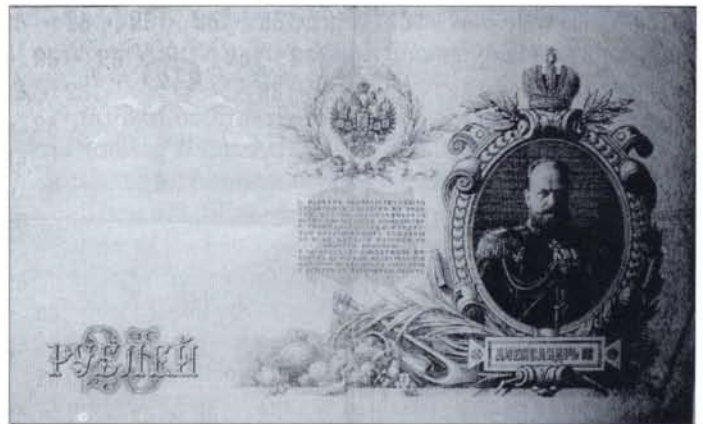
been coerced on it. Now the Austrian treasury and the French Rothschilds were again forced to come to the rescue. These sums were a large drain on the family fortunes. Louis sold some of his personal estates but retained his investments in industry and mining. In the north, Hitler was ranting about the greed of the international Jew bankers, ignoring the fact that in the land of his own youth those very bankers had provided the bulk of their own money to stabilize the position of large numbers of small farmers who were struggling to make ends meet.

In 1937 while Hitler's troops were massing for the takeover of Austria, those Jews who could find a haven elsewhere left. Louis stayed with his Lipizzaner horses. He was skiing in the Austrian Alps at the time of the occupation and returned to Vienna when his holiday was over. A few days later the Jewish baron was arrested and placed into a cellar with the communist party chiefs in the most classless cell in the world. The Nazis were interested in obtaining some of his foreign assets culminating in personal visits from Hermann Goring and Heinrich Himmler. They offered him his freedom in return for the largest iron and coal conglomerate in eastern Europe known as Vitkovitz in Czechoslovakia. Of course there would also be the small matter of a \$200,000 commission to Herr Reichsmarschall Goring. The Rothschilds had previously taken the precaution of transferring ownership of Vitkovitz to their British Alliance Insurance Company. This gave Vitkovitz a temporary protection from Nazi hands because Germany and England were not yet at war and Czechoslovakia was still an independent country. Louis was not interested in the Nazi proposition, but made his own demands—transfer only after freedom and payment of three million pounds. The offer was accepted. Louis

received his freedom but not his three million. War broke out shortly after and the Nazis got Vitkovitz for free.

After the War Louis did receive a token payment of one million dollars when Vitkovitz was expropriated by the Communists. He married one of the most attractive women in the Austrian aristocracy. They settled in Vermont, USA and hearsay has it that Mr. and Mrs. R. learned to like western barn dances as much as the Baron and Countess had previously enjoyed Viennese waltzes. The couple visited Vienna during the dark days of the aftermath of the war partly under the Russian yolk. They were shocked at severe shortages of basic commodities and the deprivations of the people begging for bread in the streets. Louis turned over his remaining Austrian property to the government to administer as a pension fund for his ex-employees. When Louis died without issue in 1955, his sister donated his art collection to the museums of Vienna.

Hitler would have turned in his grave if he had one. The idea of a non-Aryan banker providing a pension for citizens of Vienna where he grew up was not at all like the stereotype in his book, *Mien Kampf* and his marriage to a most respected lady was a contravention of his Nuremberg racial laws which forbade marriages across the racial barrier.



Russian 25 ruble: 1909. (P.12)

This note depicts tsar Alexander III, progenitor of renewed pogroms (orchestrated violent mass attacks) against Jews which started in 1881. Alexander III succeeded his father Alexander II who was killed by a group of terrorists. Alexander II was, in fact, the least oppressive of all the recent tzars but the group of assassins included a young Jewish girl.

All the assassins were hanged and the new tzar decided that the Jews would pay for the crime as a people. In addition to the violent attacks which were often instigated by the government, twenty thousand Jews were forcibly evicted from Moscow alone in climatic conditions that later destroyed the armies of Napoleon and Hitler. A few years later a quota was introduced limiting Jewish entry into schools and universities. This treatment incensed ex-President Ulysses S. Grant in America and Bismarck and almost the entire western world and turned the Rothschilds from ambivalence toward Jewish settlement in Palestine into vast financial backers of the movement.



Jerusalem religious seminary promissory note for one napoleon (25 francs) which circulated as cash: 1913 (P.N/L)

This note illustrates the poverty in Turkish Palestine and traces its origin to the Jewish community of 13th century Spain.

Young men from European centres went to Jerusalem to study for the rabbinate and other religious duties. When there was insufficient money for living expenses the seminary issued these promissory notes which were redeemable on a specified date.

This note, issued by the Austro-Galician seminary, was redeemable in 1914. The note states that it is to circulate as cash in terms of the laws formulated by Rabbi Shlomo ben Aderet, known by the acronym of Rashba, who lived in Barcelona from about 1235 to 1310. He was one of the most enlightened medieval rabbis who won the right for religious young men to study medicine, the works of Maimonides and physics.

Until a primitive economy could be created, some of the Jerusalem seminaries were rescued from collapse and starvation by James Rothschild who was known in Palestine by his Hebrew name of Jacob, or as the "well-known anonymous benefactor."

The French House resurrects the Holy Land

When Alphonse died in Paris in 1905 he was succeeded by his youngest brother Edmond who controlled the family empire for nearly thirty years. Edmond had two passions: his collection of engravings which he eventually bequeathed to the Louvre and his religious belief that Palestine had to be reclaimed from its present desolation to its former biblical fertility after being laid barren by centuries of neglect and desolation. He financed the first scientifically based agricultural settlements and sank the first well in the sand dunes of the Judean desert since biblical times. His desert agricultural research institutes became the finest of their kind in the world and discovered how to turn large tracts of the desert into green farm land that now sustains many thriving communities.

Maurice, the younger son of Edmond served in the French Parliament as a senator and in the bordellos of Paris as the family Don Juan. James, the older son inherited a fortune from an Austrian Aunt and became a British citizen and parliamentarian. Besides French and English he spoke Hebrew and financed industrial schemes to supplement his father's agricultural projects



Israel £5: 1955 (P.26)

This note depicts Israeli mechanised planting of wheat in the desert where Abraham used to graze his sheep. The wheat that is now grown so successfully in the irrigated desert is the biblical Emmer strain which had gone out of use for thousands of years. A young settler, Aaron Aaronson, was sent by James Rothschild to France to study agronomy and then spent many years searching large tracts of Palestine until he found the wild Emmer strain which is ideal for the dry conditions of the region.

The irrigated harvest is now large enough to feed the millions of people who have come into the region and the excess is exported at premium prices because of its high quality. In times of economic stress Israel has exported its entire crop and imported a cheaper quality for local consumption.

During World War I Aaronson organised a ring to spy for the British against the Turks who fought on the German side. He was killed in a plane crash over the English Channel. Other members of the ring were killed by Arabs near Gaza and his sister committed suicide under torture.

for Russian refugees in Palestine. These technologies have grown to provide work for millions of inhabitants of all faiths that have poured into the industrialized desert.

The British Rothschilds in Palestine

In 1917 the British cabinet decided to conquer the Middle East from the Turks and turn Palestine into a national home for the Jewish people to protect British interests in India and act as a haven for persecuted Russian Jews. Foreign secretary Lord Balfour wrote to Lionel informing him of the British decision. This letter became known as the Balfour Declaration. President Woodrow Wilson of the USA insisted that it be the basis of the League of Nations Mandate for Palestine and upon which Lionel made many investments in numerous pioneering industrial enterprises that developed the area into a modern economic entity.

The British Rothschilds in World War I

Before the War, Lord Nathan's brother Alfred was a personal friend of the German Chancellor, von Bulow and his ambassador in London. Public recrimination was running high in both countries. Alfred's home and personal hospitality was used by senior statesmen of both countries in an attempt to prevent a worsening of relations. They scored several important successes in



**Certificate for six hundred shares in the
Palestine Electric Corporation: 1935**

This company was set up to harness the flow of the Jordan River for the generation of the first hydro-electric power in the Middle East. The scheme was designed by an engineer who had fled from Russian persecution and approved by Winston Churchill as Colonial Secretary. Churchill, in one of his most brilliant speeches in the Commons up to that time, convinced parliament that the irrigation and electrification of the barren sun-scorched desert would support millions of people. The certificate was printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson in English, Hebrew and Arabic.

The Rothschilds supported this and many other industries such as banking, chemicals, wine, cement and oil and water pipelines. Shares in the electricity scheme were offered to the British public. This certificate was issued to a vicar in Surrey who probably did well out of his Rothschild backed investment.

averting war between the two countries—until the shots rang out at Sarajevo in 1914.

When the War broke out the French and English Rothschilds were technically enemies of their Austrian cousins. Leopold's son was killed in action on the Allied side and his Austrian cousin Eugene had a leg shattered fighting on the German side. Alfred's country estate had some of the finest beech trees in England and despite his passionate fondness for flora he donated them for trench props on the French front.

At the beginning of the War David Lloyd George was Chancellor of the Exchequer before becoming Prime Minister. He and Lord Nathan Rothschild had never got on well. Now he needed the best advice he could get to finance the most expensive war ever fought and called in Lord Nathan. The advice he got was to tax the rich—and tax them heavily. The three English Rothschild brothers were quick to contribute their share by dying before the war was over. Since their affairs were private rather than corporate they were subjected to such immense death duties that the family never recovered its past financial eminence. Most of their estates passed into public ownership and some of their contents were auctioned to help pay the death duties. Alfred's manor became a Royal Air Force training centre. Nathaniel's eldest son Lionel inherited his father's title but had to sell a part of his zoological collection to the New York



National Bank of Egypt £1: 1943 (P.11)

This note depicts king Tutankhamen who ruled over Egypt at about the time that the Israelites fled their bondage under the leadership of Moses. At a time when the Rothschild bank most needed an injection of venture capital Alfred Rothschild's bequest to Countess Carnarvon presumably helped to support a great venture at Thebes in the Nile Valley. Her husband made a great contribution to civilization by discovering Tutankhamen's tomb three years after Alfred's death.

Museum of Natural History. The British Empire continued for another few decades, but had already lost the bulk of its imperial pomp and glory. As all bank note collectors know, Germany suffered even more in the worst inflation the world had ever known up to that time. Leopold, who had tried to prevent the war, never lived to see his worst fears come to life. Of the three London brothers, bachelor Alfred's estate was left the best off because he had no children to provide for. He left the bulk of his estate to Countess Carnarvon.

Leopold's two sons were also natural history enthusiasts. The eldest whose name was also Lionel, spent the bulk of his time cultivating prize orchids and rhododendrons. The youngest son, Anthony, who had taken a double first degree at Cambridge University went into the bank and earned a knighthood. Nathaniel's youngest son, who was also called Nathaniel, entered the bank but took his own life a few years later.

The French Rothschilds in World War II

Edouard, Robert and Maurice, three grandsons of founder James, escaped from France. Edouard's son, Guy, was rescued off the beaches of Dunkirk and joined the Free French in London. He carried out a number of missions to France and became adjutant to the military governor of liberated Paris. Robert's sons James and Elie served in the Maginot Line until they were captured by the Wehrmacht. They were not handed over to the SS and survived the war. Robert fled to Morocco where he was arrested by the Vichy government. One of his Jewish fellow prisoners was Pierre Mendes-France who had been the youngest deputy ever elected to the French National Assembly. Both were sent back to France. Both escaped and enlisted in the Free French forces in London. After the invasion Philip became the British civil

Commando No. 142,
Clermont-Ferrand
internment camp
token 50 francs:
World War II
(Camp.2051)

This camp near Paris was operated by the Vichy government for political prisoners. Robert Rothschild and Pierre Mendes-France were interned in this camp until they escaped. Mendes-France wrote to Marshall Petain, the head of the Vichy administration to say that he was the true French patriot rather than the German collaborators. After the Nazi and Vichy regimes passed into history Mendes-France became prime minister of France and Rothschilds continued as a financial force until his bank was nationalized by the French government.

administrator in Le Havre and was awarded the Croix de Guerre and the Legion of Honour.

When the Germans entered Paris in 1940, the Rothschild art treasures were in foreign embassies and the Louvre or other museums for protection. The Fuhrer issued an edict invalidating any transfers made after the start of the War and the trains rolled off fully laden to Germany under Gestapo supervision. Many of the Rothschild art treasures had simply disappeared before the Nazis could get to them. Goring himself came to search Baron Alphonse's Parisian mansion and several times walked past a secret door. No servant breathed a word of the door or the hoard behind it. Baron Robert was not that lucky. Reichslieter Rosenberg discovered caches of his treasures hidden in his chateau and stud farm and sent trainloads of them off to the Vaterland.

The British Rothschilds in World War II

Victor Lord Rothschild, the grandson of the first baron earned the George Cross and US Legion of Merit as a bomb disposal officer and Leopold's son Edmond served as an artillery major in the north African and Italian campaigns. After the War Lord Victor became assistant director of research in the zoology department of Cambridge University and a fellow of the Royal Society. He was the chairman of the British Agricultural Research Council and a governor of the Weizmann Institute of Science and the Hebrew University in Israel.

Today the French and British Rothschild banks are still important economic engines. Their influence on international finance is greatly diminished because the world has grown much more moneyed and powerful due, in at least a small part, to the vitality and enterprise of the founding generations.



Book Announcement

"Trillion" Mark German Notgeld of 1923

by Dwight Musser, I.B.N.S. CM #25

As hyperinflation raged in Germany in 1923, the demand for ever more bank notes of higher and higher denominations forced the central bank to contract with well over 100 private firms to assist in printing Reichsbanknotes. The quality of some government issues deteriorated, approaching the level of "Monopoly" money.

Even this frenzy of note production was not enough to keep up with spiraling demand. States, cities, banks and companies joined in to produce over 50,000 varieties from 5000 locations. The quality of this 1923 notgeld (emergency money issued by entities other than the central government) was generally high, with a variety of designs making them attractive to collectors today. The denominations increased from thousands to millions, to milliards, to billions. Billion in the German system is equal to trillion in the American system.

At least 649 places issued notgeld of one billion marks or more. A catalog of these billion—(actually trillion—) mark notes is now available to collectors. The 30 pages of information give the issuers and identify 1486 major varieties.

Some representative examples are illustrated. Valuations indicate the relative scarcity of each item.

The 8 1/2x11-inch format catalog, "Trillion" Mark German Notgeld of 1923, is available at \$5 postpaid in the USA from Dwight Musser, Box 905, Lacoochee FL 33537.



Monarchy Notes Reveal Iraq before Saddam Hussein

by Jack H. Fisher, I.B.N.S. #421, Rights Reserved

Iraq is in the news almost daily. Most collectors and non-collectors know about Saddam Hussein, the iron-fisted ruler of Iraq, but few know about King Faisal I (also spelled Faysal), the reigning ruler of Iraq from 1921 to 1933. Notes issued with his portrait, dated 1931, stimulated my interest and curiosity about this area of the Middle East prior to, during and after World War II, up to and including the Iraq of Saddam Hussein (also spelled Husayn). This area was and is important and fascinating from ancient times to the present for the collector, researcher, historian and for the general population of the world. This study could absorb a lifetime of research and learning if all facets were covered in depth.

This article covers Iraq from the period prior to World War I and the period before World War II when the monarchy was created, operated, issued notes with the portraits of the monarchs, leads into the World War II period and follows through the overthrow of the monarchy. The notes had the portraits of King Faisal I, King Ghazi I, and King Faisal II. This period of Middle East history is important in and of itself as well as for better understanding the impact of Iraq on the rest of the world that ultimately resulted in the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq and the removal of Iraq from Kuwait by the coalition forces under the United Nations.

The notes of the Government of Iraq designated as FIRST ISSUE, dated 1931, consisting of one-quarter dinar, one-half dinar, one dinar, five dinars, ten dinars and one hundred dinars, are in the Pick catalog as numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. These notes portray King Faisal I at the right face and in the watermark at

the left. The five-dinar note (Pick 4) illustrates these notes.

Collectors will probably use the *Standard Catalog of World Paper Money* by Albert Pick to obtain information. When they see one of the First Issue notes of the GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ with the portrait of King Faisal I, natural questions may arise such as:

1. Who is King Faisal I?
2. Where did he come from?
3. What is his background?
4. How or why did he become King of Iraq in 1921?

Collectors have asked me about him, the events that led to his becoming king and matters related to the Iraq notes issued with his portrait. It is hoped that this article will stimulate collectors and non-collectors alike to seek more in-depth information about Iraq, and that learning about Iraq and those who have had roles as rulers, allies, benefactors, dissidents, etc., will provide a greater appreciation and enjoyment of the notes as well as a better understanding of the past and present Middle East.

King Faisal I was born May 20, 1885 in Mecca, the son of Sharif Hussein ibn Ali. (note: "ibn" means "son of" and "sharif" and "emir" mean "being descended from the Prophet Muhammad through Fatima who was daughter of the Prophet Muhammad.") The father of Faisal had the titles of "sharif" and "emir" of Mecca. The name of King Faisal I at birth was Faisal (Faysal) ibn Hussein al-Hashemi. Mecca at the time of his birth was the capital of the Turkish area of Hejaz.

Faisal and his family were members of the Hashemite clans of the

Quarish tribe. All of the family members had the acknowledgment and honor of being "descendants of the Prophet Muhammad."

His father placed education as a high priority for his sons, so when Faisal and his brother, Abdullah, were in their teens, he sent them to Constantinople to receive more advanced formal education than was available in Mecca. He wanted them to be prepared and qualified for high leadership and responsible positions and roles in the Arab world. He impressed on them that education was extremely important and had to be ongoing throughout their lives.

Some researchers, such as Andrew Vusson, advanced a theory that they were really in Constantinople (now Istanbul) for the dual purpose of receiving their advanced formal education and as hostages to force the Hashemite Clan of the Quarish Tribe to accept the continuing Ottoman rule of the Sultan. They were reported to be good students in and out of the class room. They were both avid students of politics and the intrigues of the time and area.

They were attracted to other educated Arabs and actively participated in Arab literary and social groups. This brought them into contact with some of the secret and underground Arab national groups. Agreeing with nationalist Arab ideas and general goals, the two brothers became active participants in these groups.

Faisal and Abdullah assisted their father as the emir who ruled Hejaz at Mecca, representing him in various capacities and in negotiations with other Arab groups and the British, as well as in the Ottoman sphere of influence. They were gaining acceptance and recognition as truly

qualified Arab leaders.

Faisal had the ability to meet with diverse Arab groups, strangers to him before the meetings, and with logic and persuasiveness to win them over to recognizing his father, Hussein, as an Arab leader with a budding feeling for Arab nationalism. His brother, Abdullah, also met with British authorities and other Arab groups to negotiate guarantees of aid and assistance in the event of an Arab revolt against the Ottoman Empire. Faisal and Abdullah were highly productive in their negotiations and the guarantees obtained from diverse Arab groups and the British. Claims were made that they even negotiated guarantees directly from Lord Kitchener. They were somewhat successful in having their father accepted by the British as the principal voice of the Arabs.

It was claimed that Kitchener made a verbal promise that should the Ottoman Empire join Germany in the war against Britain, the British would give aid to an Arab revolt against the Ottoman Empire. It was also claimed that he even implied that if the Arab revolt were successful, the caliphate could be given to a descendent of the Prophet Muhammad.

Faisal went to Damascus in 1915 to negotiate an agreement with secret Arab nationalist groups to guarantee the terms and support for an Arab revolt against the Ottoman Empire led by his father. The revolt was commenced and Faisal and his brother were principal military leaders, in concert with several other Arab friends.

An Arab military force occupied Damascus in September 1918. Faisal was in command of Iraq officers in the Syrian Army during the revolt.

These officers proclaimed Faisal king of Syria.

Abdullah led the forces that captured Taif and had a subsequent victory over the Turkish Army at Mecca. The revolt was won and Hejaz was recognized as a sovereign state. Sharif Hussein received an invitation to attend the Paris Peace Conference and Hejaz became a member of the League of Nations. While their claims were being asserted in England and France, conflict seemed to be a certainty between Sharif Hussein and Ibn Saud.

Faisal expected the British to reward his support with support for the creation of an Arab state consisting of most of Syria. He went to Paris in 1919 to the peace conference and was told the French were definite in establishing a sphere of influence in Lebanon and Syria. He accepted the French reality and stated that he would make concessions to the French by accepting French military occupation of Lebanon and the coastal portion of Syria. Some Arab leaders could not understand why he was willing to make concessions, and he tried to convince them of the military reality. He returned to Damascus in January 1920 and had to face much Arab hostility towards the French. This situation was difficult and explosive.

The French eventually took over Faisal's kingdom, occupied Damascus in the summer of 1920 and forced him into exile. The British wanted to retain the good will of Faisal, so the red carpet of welcome was rolled out for him in London.

British influence was virtually secure and established in Iraq, with a few pockets of resistance to British rule. Top British authorities con-

cluded in the spring of 1921 that it would be practical for Faisal to be king of Iraq. The Iraqi people were substantially in agreement with this. An agreement was negotiated for the eventual independence of Iraq instead of it being under British mandate. This included certain concessions and mutual military defense conditions and resulted in friendship and trust between King Faisal and Britain.

Good source books concerning this period and subject matter are *Arabia* by H. ST. John Pilby, *Seven Pillars of Wisdom* by T. E. Lawrence, *Iraq* by Philip Ireland and other books and articles available in most libraries.

Abdullah, brother of Faisal, in negotiations with Winston Churchill, accepted the British offer that he be emir of Transjordan. This was covered in my March 1992 *Bank Note Reporter* article about Jordan, King Abdullah and the paper money issued with the portrait of King Abdullah.

King Faisal was confirmed by a plebiscite. His declaration as king included the British requirement that the "Government shall be constitutional, representative and democratic." His formal crowning was August 23, 1921. The constitution provided for a constitutional monarchy, a parliamentary government and a bicameral legislature consisting of an elected house of representatives and a senate composed of appointed senators.

Only men had the right to vote. The very first parliament met in 1925. This system was anything but stable; there were ten general elections up to the fall of the monarchy in 1958. There were also over fifty cabinets formed up to 1958.



Face and back of Government of Iraq 5 dinars—1st issue—King Faisal I

There were three functioning political parties, which resulted in one party being in power and two opposition parties, all wanting complete independence from the British.

After Iraq independence in 1932, these parties dissolved because their major objective of independence was reality. There were still political groups operating with individual agendas. The new government was led by General Nuri who was a factor in obtaining independence. There was still a close relationship between Iraq and Britain. Britain maintained air bases and some troops, but the treaty, to be valid for 25 years, stated these provisions "shall not constitute in any manner an occupation and will in no way prejudice the sovereign rights of Iraq." It became a member of the League of Nations on October 3, 1932, which was recognition that Iraq was now an independent state.

King Faisal attempted to obtain

the cooperation of leaders of opposition groups after independence. General Nuri had been prime minister for about two years, then submitted his resignation. King Faisal requested that one of the opposition leaders, Rashid Ali al-Gaylani, form a new government under the constitution. Other groups seemed to want to cooperate. There was some degree of optimism.

In 1933 the small Christian group, the Assyrians, had an uprising. They were guaranteed their security by Britain and the Government of Iraq. King Faisal was in Europe on official business in 1933. The opposition group in power in the Government in Iraq ordered Iraqi troops to attack the Assyrians. Hundreds were murdered. King Faisal returned immediately to Iraq. This situation caused wide divisions within Iraq, with the general situation being almost out of control. King Faisal's attempts to achieve moderation of differences were not successful.

He went to Switzerland and died in Bern on September 8, 1933. His death added to the mishandling of the Assyrian problems by Rashid Ali, which resulted in the replacement of Rashid Ali by a more moderate Iraq government.

King Faisal was succeeded by his son, Ghazi, who was born in 1912 so was young and inexperienced in government and politics.

Notes with the portrait of King Ghazi were issued as the SECOND ISSUE Law #44 of 1931. The denominations were one-quarter, one-half, one, five, ten and 100 dinars, listed in Pick as catalog numbers 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12. A one-half-dinar note illustrates this article.

There were many political intrigues and changes of government officials by various means, both fair and foul. There were tribal problems and a courting of Iraqi army officers to become involved in politics. There was a military coup in 1936. King Ghazi did not oppose it: he wanted



Face and back of Government of Iraq 1/2 dinar note—second issue—King Ghazi I



Face and back of Government of Iraq 10 dinars—3rd issue—King Faisal II

new government officials, according to reports at the time. Hikmat Sulayman became prime minister in October 1936. Bakr Sidqi became chief of the general staff. Conditions in Iraq did not improve.

A different military group killed Bakr Sidqi. According to political observers, the military was really in control of the Iraq Government at that time. Different groups of army officers backed various different possible civilian leaders. Everything should have come to gridlock in Iraq, but it did not.

It is amazing that in spite of the political chaos or semi-chaos, somehow under King Ghazi there was economic progress in Iraq. A major irrigation project was completed. Pipelines were constructed from the Kirkuk oil fields to the Mediterranean. The railroads were purchased from the British and extended to Europe. There were improvements in schools and construction. All of these projects were reportedly financed

through oil revenues. Chaos in the government and politics did not appear to have spilled over into the economic progress of the country.

There was even progress in negotiations settling disputes with neighboring countries. It is surprising that all of this progress was achieved during the reign of King Ghazi. He was killed in an automobile accident in 1939. His four-year-old son, Faisal, became king.

King Faisal II at the age of four obviously could not function as ruling monarch, so a regent was appointed for him, his uncle Amir Abd ali Ilah, who served in that capacity for fourteen years.

Iraqi notes with the portrait of King Faisal II are THIRD ISSUE Law #44 of 1931. The Pick catalog A13 lists a 50-fil note with the notation that it was not issued, with only proofs being known. (NOTE: Does anyone know of a regular issue 50 fils?)

The denominations issued with

the portrait of King Faisal II as a child consist of one-quarter, one-half and one dinar, (Pick numbers 13, 14 and 15). The next issued notes with his portrait were one-quarter, one-half, one, five, ten and one-hundred dinars (Pick numbers 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21). A ten-dinar note illustrates this article.

Then the FOURTH ISSUE law #44 of 1931 notes were issued with different portraits of King Faisal II. These consist of one-quarter, one-half, one, five and ten dinars (Pick numbers 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26).

The National Bank of Iraq had FIRST ISSUE notes Law #42 of 1947. These were one-quarter, one-half, one, five and ten dinars (Pick numbers 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31). SECOND ISSUE Law #42 of 1947, portraying a later portrait of young King Faisal II, consisted of one-quarter, one-half, one, five and ten dinars (Pick numbers 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36). THIRD ISSUE Law #42 of 1946 notes portray a slightly more mature King Faisal II.



Face and back of Government of Iraq 1/4 dinar—4th issue—King Faisal II



Face and back of National Bank of Iraq one dinar—1st issue—King Faisal II

These include one-quarter, one-half, one, five and ten dinars (Pick numbers 37, 38, 39, 40 and 41).

The next notes issued were the CENTRAL BANK OF IRAQ-FIRST ISSUE Law #42 of 1947 with the portrait of King Faisal II as a young man, consisting of one-quarter, one-half, one and five dinars (Pick number 42, 43, 44 and 45).

SECOND ISSUE notes of Law #42 of 1947 portrays a side view portrait of King Faisal II consisting of one-quarter, one-half, one, five and ten dinars (Pick numbers 46, 47, 48, 49 and 50).

The next Iraq note issues were the REPUBLIC issues commencing with the 1958 issue, which will be covered in another article. My principal interest in Iraq notes at this time is in those notes with the portraits of King Faisal I, King Ghazi I and King Faisal II. Pursuit, collection and research on these notes provide an insight that is interesting, fascinating and educa-

tional into Iraq prior to World War I right up to the period called the REPUBLIC.

The Iraq story was also interesting in the 1939-1945 period. General Nuri was prime minister at the commencement of World War II. Iraq was declared non-belligerent. Diplomatic relations with Germany were cut off. Military officers of Iraq were not willing to cooperate with Great Britain in 1940-1941 and were secretly negotiating with Germany and Italy. British forces continued to enter Iraq. They fought with Iraq forces for about a month, and the Iraq Army finally surrendered, with many leaders fleeing Iraqi.

The British intervened to place the Regent of King Faisal II and other moderate leaders back into power. Some of the leaders and officers who opposed the British were removed from authority. Some were imprisoned, and four of the officers were determined instrumental in the war

against the British and were executed.

For a period during World War II moderate leaders and groups were active. This appeared to continue after World War II for reforms in political, economic and social areas. There were still various elements that opposed such reforms.

Progress was made in major construction projects. Turmoil in the Middle East, plus great anti-British sentiment, finally turned into riots. This was a complex period in Iraq that would require a book to report.

Younger military officers were unhappy with the situation as it existed prior to 1958. Officers commenced working in cells to formulate secret plans to gain power. Only a central organization was known to these officers in the individual cells. This organization, known as "Free Officers," consisted of fourteen officers with the highest ranking military officer, Abdal



Face and back of National Bank of Iraq 1/2 dinar—2nd issue—King Faisal II



Face and back of National Bank of Iraq 1 dinar—3rd issue—King Faisal II

Karim Kassem, as leader. Various plans and plots were discussed and examined as to practicality for success.

A plan was devised for Iraqi troops to be sent to Jordan under the pretense of bolstering Jordan's forces against Israel. Then on July 14, 1958 Brigadier Kassem and other in the military assembled troops that decided to proceed on the journey to Jordan by way of Baghdad.

On July 14 these troops assumed control of Baghdad by military force. They announced the end of the monarchy and proclaimed Iraq a republic. They executed King Faisal II, the Crown Prince, General Nuri and other leading officials of the Iraqi Government. Brigadier Kassem appointed himself commander of the national forces and minister of defense. He appointed Arif deputy commander of the national forces and minister of the interior. Three individuals functioned as a Council

of Sovereignty to head Iraq.

The new constitution stated, among other provisions, that "Arabs and Kurds are considered partners in the homeland." Iraq was then "legally a republic" with Islam the religion of the country of Iraq. Power was closely held. Kassem asserted in 1961 that Iraq had a legitimate claim to Kuwait. This created pressure from the British and other Arab countries.

One element of the Iraq Army joined with the BA'TH political group to revolt in 1963 against the Kassem regime. Kassem was executed. (Note: Hard-ball politics was played in Iraq with opponents executed so there could be no return to power.) The revolting military allowed the BA'TH Party to have the power to govern and to determine the individuals to be president and premier. The leadership requested that Arif be president. The premiership was granted to Col. Bakr.

Additional differences arose and President Arif convinced the military to back him in arresting the leadership of the BA'TH Party. He became the actual in-fact ruler of Iraq.

Arif requested a prominent civilian, Abd ar-Rahman al-Bazzaz, to develop a new government. His government worked for awhile, but there was conflict between Nationalists and Marxists that made it difficult for it to function.

The military had Bazzaz and his cabinet removed from power in 1966. There was a changing of power from group to group. A group of officers agreed to back the BA'TH Party. The BA'TH leaders then resumed power.

In 1973 there was a revolt by the security police in Iraq. This was put down. There was additional conflict between various groups and the government, including with the Kurds.

In 1972 the BA'TH and the Communist leaders agreed to have a 16-



Face and back of National Bank of Iraq 5 dinars—3rd issue—King Faisal II



Face and back of Central Bank of Iraq 1 dinar—King Faisal II

member central committee named the High Committee of the Progressive National Front (PNF). Seats on the committee were designated for the BA'TH Party, Iraqi Communists, Kurdish Democratic Party, Progressive Nationalists and the Independent Democratic Party.

President Bakr was still the leader. Saddam Hussein (Husayn) was the leader of the 1968 coup, and he rose to be the uncontested leader through all of Iraq as well as within the BA'TH Party. Bakr resigned in 1979 and Hussein became president of the Republic of Iraq in accordance with the temporary constitution. He then took over all power and suppressed all opposition groups and individuals. His power and rule from then to now will be the basis of a future article on the paper money issued since the last Monarch notes with the portrait of King Faisal II, which will

start with the 1958 issue commencing with Pick number 51.

Collectors and individuals all over the world have become more interested in Iraq and Saddam Hussein since the Gulf War that brought the United States and a military coalition of other countries under the United Nations to remove Iraq by force from Kuwait.

Iraq has a strategic location at the northwest end of the Persian Gulf. It covers about 169,000 square miles. The capital is Baghdad. It is about 865 miles from north to south and 775 miles from east to west. Iraq had Turkey on the north, Iran on the east, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia on the south, and on the west it is bordered by Syria and Jordan. The southeast portion of Iraq is on the Persian Gulf. It has a population of about sixteen million.

Iraq is and should be of interest to

collectors of paper money. A collector and researcher could spend a lifetime on the various aspects of Iraq from ancient times to the present. I have learned much about this part of the world since my childhood and have merely scratched the surface.

I intend to pursue material for a follow-up article and would appreciate contact with individuals who have information and/or the actual five-, ten, and one-hundred dinar notes with the portraits of King Faisal I, King Ghazi I and King Faisal II. Serial numbers and conditions of such notes are desired. Photocopies will be appreciated. All contacts are to be directed to Jack H. Fisher, 3123 Bronson Boulevard, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49008. Information obtained will be shared with the numismatic and syngraphic community.

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New Bank Note Series from Macedonia

by Helmut Bartel

Macedonia, formerly a part of the Republic of Yugoslavia, gained its independence on November 20, 1992, one year after the promulgation through the Parliament. The landlocked republic is bordered by Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Greece and Albania. The only metropolis and capital is Skopje. Macedonia has an area of 25,713 sq km and a population of about 2 million people of different groups of origin: orthodox Macedonier, Albans, Turkish people (both Muslim), Bulgarians, Croates and orthodox Serbians.

At the end of 1992 it issued its own provisional currency from 10 denars to 10,000 denars and only one year later, in 1993, a currency reform was implemented. New denominations from 10 denars to 1000 denars were issued.

On September 8, 1996 a beautiful new series of bank notes was issued. The old series will remain in circulation for about one year. The new series comprises six bank notes in denominations of 10, 50, 100, 500, 1000 and 5000 denars.

The new bank note series comprises modern colored notes with all security features that are used today: watermark, windowed-thread, intaglio print, latent image, microtext, see-through feature and optical variable ink and sensitized ink (changing under UV-light).

The notes show historical buildings and archeological discoveries, partly of centuries B.C. The inscription is in Kyrillish letters. Following is a short description of the face and back of each note. (Source: leaflet of National Bank of Macedonia.)

10 denars: Face: Statue of the Goddess Isida from the 3rd century B.C., created from alabaster of an amber color. The torso was discovered in a grave dating from the 4th century B.C. Goddess Isida, the mother of all nature, rules from the underworld. Back: A peacock, a detail from the floor mosaic from the baptisteries in the Episcopal Basilica, (5th-6th century A.D.) 140x70mm, predominant color: violet.

50 denars: Face: A folis, copper under the Emperor Anastasie I (491-518). The folis, with the capital "M" in the middle, is showing under a decorative stucco ark from the south wall of the Church of St. Panteleimon in Gorano Nerezi, Skopje Back: Archangel Gabriel from the scene of the Annunciation on the east wall of the Church of St. Ghiorgia. The church dates from 1191. Today the church is one of the most beautiful and valuable churches in Macedonia. 143x70mm, predominant colors: blue and light brown.



Face and back of 10 dinars note of Macedonia, 1996 issue



Face and back of 50 dinars note of Macedonia, 1996 issue

100 denars: Face: Ceiling rosette in relief in Albania house in bar. Wealthy families used to decorate the ceilings of their houses with woodcarving, considered a baroque architectural element. Back: Skopje, engraving by a Holland printer, Jacobus Harevin, in 1594, now in custody in Nuremberg (Germany) showing a window of Albanian house in horizontal position. 146x70mm, predominant color: light brown.



Face and back of 100 dinars note of Macedonia, 1996 issue



Face and back of 500 dinars note of Macedonia, 1996 issue



Face and back of 1,000 dinars note of Macedonia, 1996 issue



Face and back of 5,000 dinars note of Macedonia, 1996 issue

500 denars: Face: Golden Masks Trebenista, Ohrid. This death mask is made of fine gold tin and was discovered in a nobleman's grave dating from the 6th century B.C. Back: Poppy (Papaveraceae). The poppy was introduced into Macedonia in 1835. 148x70mm, predominant color: orange.

1000 denars: Face: Icon—Madonna Episepsis from the Church of St. Vrach-Mali, Ohrid, early 14th century. The icon is depicted in its true dimensions, with an image of the Christ Child on the right. Back: A detail

from the Church of St. Sophia in Ohrid, built in the 10th-11th centuries. This church was the seat of the Ohrid archbishopric. 152x70mm, predominant color: brown.

5000 denars: Face: Tetovo Maenad, 6th century B.C. The Tetovo Maenad is a bronze figurine, an archeological discovery, unearthed in a rich grave discovered in Tetovo and constructed in the last decades of the 6th century B.C. It represents the artistic expression of the beginning of the ancient era in Macedonia. Back: Mosaic Heraklea Linkestis—Cerberus tied to the fig tree, 6th century. This mosaic, taken from the narthex in the Great Basilica in Heraklea, represents the Christian universe. Cerberus the dog is tied to the fig tree, representing the Watcher of Heaven. The watermark is registered three-dimensionally and bears the characteristic of each note in the left, unprinted part. Besides this, each note has a code for blind persons.

I hope that many collectors all over the globe will take pleasure in these stunning and historically very interesting notes.

Gryvna: a Handbook of Ukrainian History

by William D. Goncharuck, I.S.B.N. #6624

There have been many disputes as to the technical and artistic values of the newly-introduced currency of Ukraine, yet one aspect remains indisputable: the creators of the gryvna notes design managed to reflect on the bank notes the most important epochs of Ukrainian history, their spirit, even some of the most subtle moments which are still being discussed among professional historians.

First we must clarify terminology: there should be no mixing up of the words "Rus" and "Russia," the former being applied through the centuries to the territories of modern Ukraine, the latter appearing during the process of the Muscovian Empire's growth and corresponding attempts at self-identification within history. For example, for centuries the territories of modern Russia were titled on European maps as "Moscovia," and the territories of the modern Ukraine as "Rus." It was finally Czar Peter I who, using all his diplomatic talents and sometimes even force, made the civilized world accept a new name for Moscovia - "Rusland" or "Rossiya" or "Russia," while the original bearer of the name Ukraine-Rus', after a series of military and political failures, lost its sovereignty and gradually came into the epoch of "Ruin." The term "Ukraine" became therefore more widely used and later was accepted by the whole world as the proper name for the former "Rus'." Moreover the use of the newly-manufactured terms "Russia" or "Rossiya" for Moscovia accelerated this process.

Thus we will use the term "Rus'" to identify the territories and the people of the ancient Ukraine and the term "Rusian" correspondingly, which again should not be taken for

"Russian." Enough said.

The 1-gryvna note, of both 1992 and 1994 designs, portrays on its face the Kiyvan (Russian transcr. - Kiev, Ukrainian - Kiyiv or Kyiv) King Volodymyr the Great. His title was applied to him for two reasons. First he was the first ruler of Rus', who managed to unite all the Russian territories within the borders which correspond to the borders of the modern Ukraine. Even more, he was especially successful in subjugating the northern territories of the non-Slavonic tribes to the rule of Kiyiv. Later these tribes were assimilated and created their own form of culture and statehood which in several centuries received the name of Moscovia. Second, Volodymyr the Great was the first Russian king who adopted Christianity as the official religion of the Rus', although Christianity had already been widely spread through the territories of the Rus'-Ukraine since the time of St. Clemens, the Pope who died in exile in the Crimean peninsula, from where Christianity was later brought over to the other territories of Rus'.

The first Russian bishops had their residences in Crimean Khersones, Perhaps this explains why the artist depicted the ruins of this city on the back of the 1-gryvna note. The other reason for depicting the ruins of the ancient Greek city on the territory of Rus' was to make an allusion to thousand-year-long ties which existed between Rus'-Ukraine and the ancient world of Greece and even Rome. By the way, the very term "Ukraina" was used by historian and geographer, Strabo, long before Christ, as "Ukrania" (this transcription is preserved in some Romanic languages, e.g. Spanish, Portuguese, etc.). One more interesting comment



1-gryvna note of Ukraine, 1992

on 1-gryvna notes: Volodymyr the Great is not crowned by a Byzantine diadem, which was some time later after his baptism handed to him by a Byzantine emperor, but on his head we see a real European-like crown, which European monarchs received from the Roman Pope, a slight allusion to the long-time-silenced fact that Volodymyr the Great received his crown from Roman Pope Silvester II, and was therefore not simply grand duke (which was equal to "king") but had all right to be called king, and he was. All the papal annals of that epoch name Volodymyr the Great, as well as his son, Yaroslav the Wise, and his grandsons, by the term "Rex" (king).

The vignette of the notes is designed from the ornaments which were in fashion in the times of Volodymyr the Great. The watermark "trident" is the coat-of-arms of Volodymyr the Great and has its own very sophisticated semantics. Now this is the official coat-of-arms of the modern Ukraine.

The 2-gryvna note is to my mind the most beautiful among the whole

1-100 set: the exquisite vignette is ornamented by the 11th century motifs which were widely used in the ornamentation of the St. Sophia Cathedral of Kyiv (back of the note), erected by the son of Volodymyr the Great, Yaroslav the Wise. This temple was the biggest in eastern Europe among the Catholic temples of the Eastern tradition. King Yaroslav is depicted on the face of the note not in a crown but in a traditional Rusian duke's fur hat decorated with precious stones. He is famous for his grand efforts in the field of introducing literature, schooling and science into the everyday life of the then Ukraine-Rus'.

He is also famous for his daughter Anna, who later became the Queen of France (Kyivan dukes and kings had family ties with nearly all European dynasties) when she married French King Henry I. Some historians say that it was she who bought the golden trident of Volodymyr the Great to France, which later was transformed into the Golden Lilies. (The Ukrainian trident during the time of Volodymyr the

Great was of gold color placed on the blue background shield. These two colors were ones pertaining to the Grand Duke of Kyiv exclusively. Now these colors are the national colors of Ukraine.

Unlike her bridegroom, Anna could read and write (an unthinkable phenomenon for a woman of those times), so along with her she brought a book of gospel which later was called the Reims Gospel (in Reims, France Anna married Henry I). Until 1825 Reims was the place of French kings' coronations, and they all gave their oaths during the coronation ceremonies holding their hand on the book which had been written in Kyiv in the first part of the 11th century in the old Rusian language.

Paradoxes of history are incredible: when in the 1930s Stalin's regime decided to obliterate the St. Sophia Cathedral of Kyiv from the face of the earth (as they did to many historical monuments in order to ruin the historical memory of Ukrainians), it was the French embassy that intervened with a request not to ruin the cathedral because it had



2-gryvna note of Ukraine, 1992



5-gryvna note of Ukraine, 1992

been built by the father of the French Queen Anna and is a piece of the French heritage! In the 1930s Moscow did not want to spoil its relations with the European states, so the cathedral was not ruined. King Yaroslav was indeed so wise when he established ties with the French monarchical dynasty back in the 11th century!!! This saved his creation 900 years later!

The 5-gryvna note portrays on its face a Ukrainian getman (military chief-leader) of the 17th century, Bogdan Khmelnytskyi, who after several centuries of ruin did succeed in regaining independence for Ukraine-Rus', again approximately within the borders of the modern Ukraine. Yet he made a fatal mistake which cost the Ukraine its independence and later even identity. Being surrounded by unfriendly states which tried to subdue Ukraine under their influence, he made up his mind to set up closer relations with Moscovia in the form of a military and political alliance.

A massive flood of Moscovians which overwhelmed Ukraine,

especially shrewd policies of Moscow, often grounded in unfulfilled obligations at the beginning, and brutal military force, followed by an actual occupation regime, led to a total ruin of both the Ukrainian state and society.

The last attempt to regain its independence from the Moscovian Empire was made by Ivan Mazepa, who is depicted on the 10-gryvna note. Ivan Mazepa was, as was Bogdan Khmelnytskyi, Getman of Ukraine. He was the richest person in the Ukraine of those times, some said even richer than Czar Peter I, whose close counselor Ivan Mazepa was. Having a relatively independent administration over the whole territory of Ukraine within the borders of the Moscovian-Russian Empire, innumerable riches, and the personal friendship of Peter I, he chose, nevertheless, the "Striving to enter in through the narrow door." He chose the risky way to liberate his country from the Moscovian yoke. In alliance with Swedish King Charles XII, he planned to regain the independence of Ukraine. He secretly

prepared Ukrainian troops, which had to join with the Swedish Army to defeat the Moscovian Army headed by Peter I near the city of Poltava (East of Ukraine) in 1709. As it often happens in history, betrayal played its role; due to timely information, Moscovian troops were reinforced and the Swedish-Ukrainian allied forces were defeated. Ivan Mazepa and Charles XII fled to Turkey, all the Ukrainian military aristocracy were beheaded and a special occupation regime was introduced.

Europeans, who followed these events with great curiosity, were very sympathetic with the endeavor of Ivan Mazepa. He became a hero of the poems of J. Byron, F. Voltaire and also of some artists of the years to follow. The 18th and 19th centuries were extremely difficult for the Ukrainian nation. The Ukrainian language was twice officially prohibited for use by certain czarist documents, schools were closed and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church was also merged with the Moscovian one. At the same time the Ukrainian Catholic church (Eastern Rite) was outlawed.



10-gryvna note of Ukraine, 1992

During these times the Ukraine received her prophet, Taras Shevchenko (1814-1864), poet-democrat who was the first to clearly formulate the national idea. His portrait can be seen on the 100-gryvna note. One can see his monuments both in Rome and in Washington D.C., and it goes without saying that for many generations his portrait decorated the dwellings of Ukrainians. His monuments can be found in nearly every village in the western Ukraine (these territories were out of reach of the Moscovian-Russian Empire) not to mention towns and big cities.

The 20-gryvna note portrays Ivan Franko, the great Ukrainian intellectual who lived at the turn of the 20th century and who made a considerable contribution to the development of Ukrainian literature, the national idea and the democratic movement. On the back one can see the building of Lviv Opera theater. Lviv, sometimes said to be the second capital of Ukraine, is situated in the western Ukraine, which until 1939 never experienced the Russian Empire rule or the Communist regime. Ivan Franko is the representative of the west Ukrainian intellectual elite.

And finally the 50-gryvna note, as well as the 100-gryvna note, depicts the House of the Ukrainian Parliament "Supreme Council" (Verkhovna Rada, "), while on its face we can see the portrait of the first elected President of Ukraine during the time of the First Republic, Mikhaïlo Grushevskyi (1917-1918). This First Republic existed only a couple of years before it

was again occupied by Bolshevik Lenin's armed forces in 1919. Later it was included in the USSR.

The decades that followed turned out to be the most tragic for Ukraine in her whole history. Artificial famines, organized by Lenin and later Stalin, took the lives of more than ten million men, women and children (1921, 1932-33, 1947), and massive deportations to Siberia practically depopulated the territories of the eastern Ukraine. Again, as two hundred years earlier, practically all of the Ukrainian intellectual elite was murdered. In WWII nearly 15 million Ukrainians died. The Chernobyl disaster was among the last "gifts" of the Empire to Ukraine.

On August 24, 1991 the Ukraine proclaimed its independence. The trident of King Volodymyr the Great is now the official Ukrainian coat-of-arms, and the Kyivan Grand Duke's colors, blue and yellow, are the Ukrainian national colors.

The very word gryvna is etymologically connected to the Ukrainian word "zagryvok," that is "neck." A thousand years ago Ukrainians wore large silver or (rarely) golden rings on the neck as decorations. Later these decorations were used as the means of payment and were no longer worn on necks. The "gryvna" was then used as a measure unit for silver (e.g. the Kyivan gryvna was equal to 160 gr. and Novgorod gryvna to 200 gr.) In the 13th century appeared certain silver or gold units called "karbovanets." In the 15th century gryvnas were completely replaced by karbovanets. Under the Russian

Empire occupation, the ruble was introduced as a sole means of payment. During the epoch of the First Republic, both gryvnas and karbovanets circulated and again were replaced by rubles. In 1992 Ukrainians began to use karbovanets and in 1996, gryvnas.

Under the 1996 monetary reform the gryvna was subdivided into 100 kopijok. Even the Chief of the Central Bank, Victor Yushchenko, affirmed that this is more a tribute to the habit of using Russian money than a historically correct measure. Originally 1 gryvna was equal to 100 shagiv. Kopeck is a purely Moscovian term.

The 1-20 gryvna notes were issued by the American Banknote Company. The 50-and 100-gryvna notes were printed by De La Rue, Giorry (Switzerland) and Ukrainian Banknote Enterprise in Kyiv. The 50-and 100-gryvna note differ completely from the design of 1-20-gryvna notes and are considered less successful than the former. The technique applied to the 1-20 gryvnas is superb and no doubt Ukrainian gryvnas contributed greatly to the world of vignettes.

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20-gryvna note of Ukraine, 1992

Letters to the Editor—Continued from page 6



50 hryven ND (1994). Multicolored, rose hues. Mykhailo Hrushevskiy (1866-1934), historian, first president of Ukraine (1918). Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) building on back. Signature varieties: Hetman, Yuschenko.



100 hryven ND (1994). Multicolored, rose-green hues. Taras Shevchenko (1814-1861), poet-laureate of Ukraine. Cathedral of St. Sophia in Kyiv (built 1037-44) on back. Signature varieties: Hetman, Yuschenko.



Dear Editor,

I send to you a copy of the Greek note of 200 drachmas with new information about it from the Bank of Greece.

With best regards and wishes to you and all members.

Sincerely yours,

Ioannis Koutsobois, I.B.N.S. #4447
Asklipiou 8
GR - 42 200 - Kalambaka
Greece

Dear Editor:

I could not believe my luck! In your Volume 36, Number 2, 1997 issue, there was a letter from Stanley Campbell I.B.N.S. #6662, wherein he described his experience in Cuba. I received *The Journal* three days before I left on a business trip to Mexico.

I learned that it was very easy for U.S. citizens to travel to Cuba from Mexico, and there are no restrictions

against U.S. citizens to travel there. There are several travel agencies in Mexico City that arrange package tours to Cuba. With only one day's notice, I was able to easily arrange a two-night package to Havana that included a tourist card, airfare, five-star hotel accommodations, breakfasts, and airport transfers. I paid for most of the costs of the trip in Mexico before leaving. Off I went to spend the weekend in Cuba. (The Cuban immigration officials are kind enough to refrain from stamping your passport, to avoid troubles with their U.S. counterparts.)

In his letter, Mr. Campbell described his visit to the Numismatic Museum in Havana and the trading session of the local coin and currency collectors. My first destination on Saturday morning was the coin museum, where I asked if they knew about the trading sessions. They told me that the gathering takes place every Saturday at mid-day at the Casa de Cultura in Centro Havana.

Next, I arranged a taxi and headed to the Casa de Cultura. After trying to get in the front door, which was chained and padlocked, a man saw my consternation and asked if I was looking for the 'grupo numismatico.'

continued on page 47

Security fibres visible under ultraviolet rays

Security background

Security thread

See-through vignette

See-through vignette

Security background

Security thread

See-through vignette



Watermark

See-through vignette

Microprinting

Security pattern visible under ultraviolet rays

Main intaglio printing

Series and serial number

Main intaglio printing

Microprinting

Watermark

Security fibres visible under ultraviolet rays

Book Review

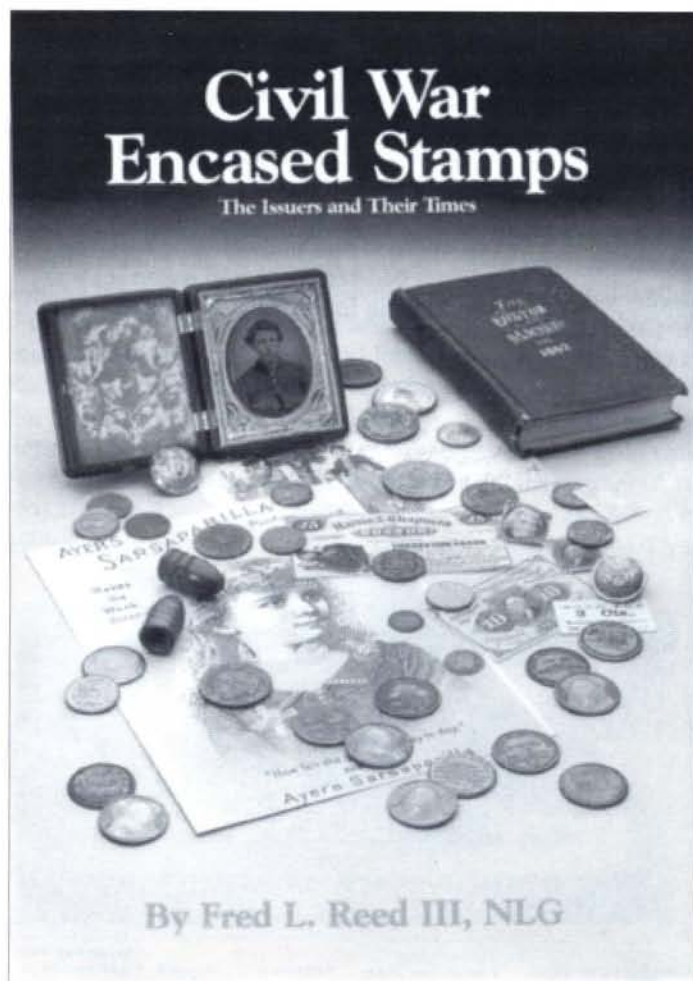
Book Is Champion

reviewed by Fred Schwan, I.B.N.S. LM#6

Civil War Encased Stamps: the Issues and Their Times by Fred Reed may be the most honored single edition numismatic book ever. Perhaps more importantly it has been honored by numismatic, philatelic, and graphic arts organizations.

The book captured high honors at the World Philatelic Exhibition—Pacific '97 literature competition recently concluded in San Francisco. The book received a vermeil (gold-plated silver) medal with felicitations (high honors) in that contest.

This is the seventh special recognition that *Civil War Encased Stamps* has received since it was published by BNR Press two years ago and is probably the most prestigious, according to Reed who said that he was both surprised and pleased by the recognition.



Since *Civil War Encased Stamps* is not strictly a stamp book, but rather a book about a money substitute issued during wartime, Reed called its entry into the competition "something of a lark. I just wanted to see what a serious international jury would think of my research, my topic, and my writing. I am very gratified at its acceptance by the international philatelic community." Collectors and others who have seen the book agree that Reed is being modest with these comments. This is a monumental and amazing book.

Pacific '97 is the sixth international exhibition and competition in the series held only every ten years in the United States. It is staged by a consortium of national philatelic organizing committees. It offered world class exhibits, an enormous bourse, as well as the literature competition. The event at San Francisco's Moscone Center ran May 29- June 8 drawing upwards of 100,000 (yes five zeroes) visitors from around the world.

More than 200 philatelic books, magazines, and electronic publications from around the world were invited to compete in the literature contest. Only 33 U. S. books were invited. Books qualified by capturing a gold medal in an early national philatelic literature competition. Each country's organizing committee was responsible for qualifying its own entries for the international competition. Reed's entry qualified by capturing a gold medal at CHICAGOPEX 95, the nations' oldest and most prestigious philatelic literature competition. It is held annually by the Chicago Philatelic Society.

An international jury of distinguished philatelic judges selected the best literature entries from among the world class collecting, postal history, and topical philatelic publications. Winners were on display throughout the show and a special reading room was set aside so that show visitors could examine duplicate copies of the honored books.

Thus far *Civil War Encased Stamps* has received the following awards:

1. vermeil medal, Pacific '97 International Philatelic Congress
2. gold medal, Chicagopex '95, Chicago Philatelic Society
3. Nathan Gold Lifetime Achievement Award 1996, Society of Paper Money Collectors
4. Texas Numismatic Association Education Award 1996.

5. Best Exonumia Book 1996, Numismatic Literary Guild
6. Book of the Year, Civil War Collectors' Society, 1996
7. National Gold Ink Award, Best Book Cover 1996, pewter, by Publishing & Production Executive and Printing Impressions.

The book studies an unusual area of numismatics that obviously crosses over into philately. During the Civil War, governments and merchants alike had to be creative in solving financial difficulties. Both sides experienced severe financial difficulties. Gold and silver coinage was hoarded and disappeared from circulation. Both sides then issued paper money. As amazing as that seems today, that was the first successful use of federal paper money. Fractional currency was created and huge quantities of tokens were issued.

Encased postage stamps were perhaps the most interesting and innovative money of them all. Postage stamps were encapsulated so that they could circulate without deteriorating. The denomination was visible to establish the value and the other side was available for advertising. This was the perfect free enterprise solution, but the introduction of fractional currency ended the need for encased stamps.

Fred Reed has studied Civil War encased stamps in a way that few issues have been studied. He has done the traditional things. He studied collections, auction catalogs, old price lists and the like. He has developed pedigrees and lists. Of course he has also cataloged and evaluated each piece and used computer technology to generate emission models for each issue.

You would expect all of the above in a numismatic catalog. However, he went far beyond that. He researched each issuer in detail and in twenty years he had remarkable results. You will love the 558 pages of text and amazing graphics in this book.

Civil War Encased Stamps is still available from the publisher (BNR Press, 132 East Second Street, Port Clinton, Ohio 43452 (419) 732-6682, \$64 postpaid) and may be borrowed from numismatic libraries and select public libraries.

History of Warsaw's Contributions Levied by the German Occupation Authority During World War II

by Tomasz Sluszkiewicz, I.B.N.S. #3946

Introduction

A contribution is a monetary penalty to be paid by civilians to the Occupied Authority.

The city of Warsaw has a long history of such experiences. It started in 1656 by the Swedish Army; then in 1709 King August II levied a city for supporting King Stanislaw Leszczynski. Extensive contributions were laid by the German Occupied Authority during World War II. The first one forced on the Jewish population was in October, the second in November 1939. Both were paid by Warsaw's Jewish Community.

The three contributions laid on the Polish inhabitants of Warsaw were obligatory; on payment each person received a contribution certificate. It was a receipt for the fine paid; however, they looked similar to emergency money. Below is a short history of the incidents which most probably caused contributions to be levied.

October 8, 1942, seven AK (Home Army) sapper's patrols blew up all railways around Warsaw and derailed several trains.

October 15, 1942, Germans executed 39 Poles and hung 50 "hostages" all over the city.

October 24, 1942, in revenge, GL (Peoples Guard) threw hand-grenades at the local German "Cafe Club" and restaurant in the main railroad station.

In the middle of October, 1942, underground resistance



The contribution 1.000.000 zł, October 31, 1942

groups posted an imitation of the original German poster, signed by the chief of General Gouvernement propaganda Ohlenbus: "Recently certain prank individuals, on the basis of political motives, have tried to influence the inhabitants of Warsaw to boycott cinema theatres. Those pranks have gone so far, that hundreds of cases of destruction of the clothes of cinema lovers, by pouring on them caustic liquids or even by burning innocent spectators have been reported by police. And how many such accidents were not reported to the police? These and similar hooligan's activities (like beating), have a powerful influence on poor attendance in cinemas. It should be explained that all cinemas in GG are owned by GG Propaganda Office, all profit is transferred to support the German Army, bleeding for a long time for the welfare of the New Europe. The German Army constantly needs new equipment and the money earned in cinemas is used for it. Warsaw's civilians, your money spent in cinemas is contributing to establish a new order in Europe. The German Army makes an appeal to all people in GG; Help us! Give your money for new German weapons! All should visit cinemas!"

On October 27, 1942, an order by Governor Fischer to levy a contribution on "the Polish inhabitants of the city Warsaw in the amount of 1.000.000 zl (as punishment) for

criminal attempts using "hydrochloric acid"" was posted. On the same day, Fischer wrote to the Government of GG: "recently, public safety on Warsaw's streets has been permanently threatened by hydrochloric acid attacks by Polish fanatics on German soldiers and civilians. Polish elements pour hydrochloric acid on German passers-by after dark, causing destruction of their clothing. Wehrmacht itself reported over 100 of these incidents. Many employees of the District Offices had large losses also, because buying new winter coats of the same quality is not possible."

October 28, 1942, several dozen Poles were executed by Germans.

January 18, 1943, the ZOB (Jewish Fighting Organization) appealed to fight and defend against the German Police in the Warsaw Ghetto.

January 23, 1943, an unsuccessful attempt was made to burn the Arbeistamp (Employment Office) data by group "Plan."

February 2, 1943, 19 Poles were executed by Germans

February 4, 1943, Germans communicated the capitulation of their VI Army to the Russian at Stalingrad. Graffiti on the walls of the city read: "kaput" and "1918"

February 6, 1943, Germans discovered the underground printer "Szaniec," and destroyed it after a few hours of fighting.

February 12, 1943, 70 Poles were executed by Germans.

February 12, 1943, Chief of SS and Police Ferdynand von Sammern-Franke announced a levy in the amount of 10.000.000 zl "because of many attacks on German men and women, in the last week by armed bandits."

The contribution was, in half, a levy on the property owners; the rest was in the form of a payment of 5 zl from every adult having food ration cards.

January 15, 1944, around 300 Poles were executed by Germans.

January 21, 1944, 30 Poles were executed by Germans.

January 24, 1944, 77 Poles were executed by Germans.

January 25, 1944, 38 Poles were executed by Germans.

January 27, 1944, 32 Poles were executed by Germans.

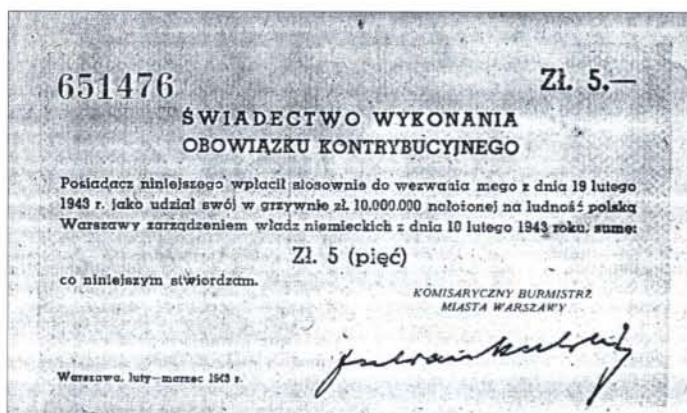
January 28, 1944, around 200 Poles were executed by Germans.

January 31, 1944, 47 Poles were executed by Germans.

February 1, 1944, detachment AK "Pegaz," successfully assassinated General Franz Kutchera, chief of SS and Police in Warsaw District, who was responsible for mass crimes. Four members of AK "Pegaz" died; surrounded by Germans. K.Scott and Z.Gesicki, and few a days later B. Pietraszewicz and M. Senger died of their wounds.

February 1, 1944, detachment AK "Kedyw" killed Lubbert, the chief of Arbeitsamt GG (employment office).

February 1, 1944, detachment AK



The contribution of 10.000.000 zl, February 10, 1943



The contribution of 100.000.000 zl, February 2, 1944

"Mokotow" killed Dr. Eitner, Executor Commissioner of Jewish Properties.

February 2, 1944, 300 Poles were executed by Germans.

February 2, 1944, German announcement: "because the population was obliged to fight criminal elements and didn't do their duty, we will levy a contribution in the amount of 100.000.000 zl on the inhabitants of Warsaw, all Polish restaurants will remain closed until further notice, and from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. a curfew will be in effect."

Summary

Certificates of contribution were issued by the Polish Municipal Administration of Warsaw and signed by Julian Kulski, Commissioner President (Mayor) of the city of Warsaw. The text contains the information that the owner of this certificate paid a certain contribution levied on Polish inhabitants of city of Warsaw according to German orders.

Before the war Julian Kulski was the vice-president of the city. This is a record of the all other Warsaw mayors during the war:

- Jan Okolo-Kulak, vice-president, killed September 25, 1939, in the city hall during a bomb attack.
- Jan Pohoski, vice-president, arrested in March 1940, executed by the Germans, June 21, 1940
- Stefan Starzynski, president, arrested on October 26, 1939, executed by the Germans, October 21, 1940.

References

1. W. Bartoszewski *1859 dni Warszawy* Znak 1984
2. *Encyklopedia Historii Gospodarczej Polski* Wiedza Powszechna 1981
3. N. Davies *Gods Playground, a history of Poland* Oxford University Press 1981

The author welcomes hearing from anyone who may have any additional information regarding this subject:

P.O.Box 54521, Middlegate Postal
Burnaby, B.C., Canada V5E 4J6
or e-mail: tsluszki@netcom.ca

Letters to the Editor—Continued from page 43

He took me to the back of the building, where I paid one peso for entrance. About thirty men with briefcases were trading coins, currency, stamps and medals in the back courtyard outside the building. Despite the shade of a tree, it was very hot and humid. The people were extremely friendly and several asked me what I was interested in. When I told them I was looking for paper money, several of them handed me photo albums filled with Cuban bills to peruse.

I got most of my notes from a kind, elderly gentleman. After some gentle haggling over the prices (it is always customary in Latin America to haggle over prices), I obtained several good notes for which I 'traded' U.S. dollars. My favorites are the notes from 1960-61, when Che Guevara was the president of the Central Bank. His distinctive signature, 'Che,' is the great feature of those notes. The 26 de Julio notes, which predate the success of the revolution, are also fantastic. The Banco de Espana de la Isla de Cuba notes were printed attached to stubs, similar to checkbooks. Rarely, can one find some of the notes still attached to the stubs. I did not look at any of the coins, but I am sure that there must be good examples of Spanish coins still floating around the island.

I met a young diplomat from the Slovakian embassy. He had started a collection of Cuban currency several months earlier, and had assembled several good pieces. He is very interested in starting correspondence with other currency collectors and said he would be willing to trade Cuban notes for notes of other countries which he collects. He is particularly interested in establishing communication through E-Mail.

His address is:

Mr. Pave Meleg
Delegado Comercial
Embajada de la Republica Eslovaca
3ra. Avenida No.3611, apto. 2,
esq. 36-A
Miramar, Cd. de La Habana, CUBA
fax: 537-240036
E-Mail: delcom@ceniai.inf.cu

The foreign tourists to Cuba are required to spend U.S. dollars. They are not allowed to exchange their currency for Cuban pesos. All the hotels and taxis are quoted in U.S. dollars, which makes it much more expensive than it otherwise would be. Tourists can use credit cards and travelers' checks issued by non-U.S. banks. The U.S. citizens have to carry enough cash to cover expenses. It is very safe in Cuba and one does not have to fear being robbed, kidnapped or killed, like in many Latin American cities.

The Cuban people are extremely friendly and welcome all tourists, even U.S. citizens, very warmly. I was able to engage in conversation with several people (in Spanish, of course). They all made it clear that they have the greatest respect and admiration for the U.S. people. They could not understand, however, the justification for the U.S. government's blockade of Cuba.

I have been to every country in Latin America. The lowest class of people in most of the Latin American countries are in a desperate situation, with many dying from starvation or disease. The infant mortality rate in most Latin American countries is relatively high. In Cuba, however, one could see that the lowest class of people is much better off than they would be in many other Latin American countries. They are all provided with good, free medical care, free education and ample food. However, those that would be middle and upper classes in other Latin American countries, are evidently not very well off in Cuba and are not much better off than the lower classes. It is very evident that there are not many opportunities for the middle class youth in Cuba.

Because of the letter to the editor that I read in the *I.B.N.S. Journal*, I was able to enjoy a fruitful and educational visit to Cuba. For that I am very

continued from page 51

Questions, Questions, Questions

by Fred Schwan, I.B.N.S. L.M.#6

No subject is likely to be more controversial for a longer time than grading. Controversies come and go, but there can always be differences of opinion, disputes, and even heated arguments about grading. In recent years these have all been mild, but the potential is always there. The I.B.N.S. should be proud of the action that it took some years ago to study the problem and publish grading standards to be used for world paper money. Although these standards are not perfect, they have been well received.

A few months ago I received a newsletter published by Lyn Knight. Therein Lyn discussed various aspects of grading. In particular Lyn was discussing early United States paper money and some will argue that somehow the United States is not part of the world and the standards do not apply there. Lyn stated that a well centered (early United States national bank) about uncirculated note is worth more than a similar uncirculated but poorly centered note.

This is absurd thought I. Some time ago dealer Ian Marshall and I were discussing the fact that there is a growing demand good centering on some notes by some collectors. Later still Joe Boling pointed out a discussion that appeared in a philatelic journal. According to that article, condition and grade were different things. At first I thought about the difference between heat and temperature, but that was not the point. The author stated that condition dealt with state of preservation and grade with quality of manufacturing (or perhaps the other way).

Ah, this is what Lyn was writing about and it makes sense. A note that was not manufactured to the highest standards can still be preserved perfectly and conversely. The problem has been that I fell into the trap of equating condition (state of preservation) for a given piece with value for that piece. There may be a strong link between the two, but as we have demonstrated, they are not the same thing.

This got me thinking about some manufacturing considerations. Lithographed notes are perfectly flat when finished by the manufacturer. Engraved notes on the other hand are seldom so flat. To make matters a bit more complicated. Originally intaglio printing required damp paper for a full image. Such paper dried with definite waves. Later, dry intaglio printing was perfected. Notes printed in this way are not as flat as litho notes, but they are much flatter than wet printed notes. Some say that dry intaglio was never actually perfected. They contend that governments and populations were simply willing to accept the lower quality in order to save on manufacturing costs. Nonetheless, the manufacturing process dictates the flatness that can or must be expected for a given note. Indeed, if a wet-printed note is very flat, it was probably pressed quite recently!

There must be some other interesting aspects to consider. What about size. Paper money is printed in a wide range of sizes. Should very large (size not denomination) and very small notes be held to the same standard? Very small notes are seldom folded while large notes virtually always are. A well circulated small note may have some

corner folds and be dirty, have full body, but not have a center fold. Large notes that have seen the same amount of circulation will certainly have one or more folds. Indeed, an otherwise virtually perfect note may have quarter folds.

Actually, I think that our standards along with some judgment adequately cover this case. Can you imagine a sets of standards arranged by technology by size?!

Then we have the doctoring versus restoration argument. When is a repair an unethical practice and when is it a legitimate restoration? Great works of art and documents are routinely restored by professionals who have spent years learning the skill.

Our standards state that "cleaning, washing or pressing paper money is generally harmful..." and that "processing of a note which started out as extremely fine will automatically reduce it at least one full grade." No argument on those items, but is an alteration (such as erasing a pencil mark in the margin) ethical? If that is acceptable because it cannot be seen/noticed, are other practices equally unobjectionable just because they are not noticed.

The most common response to these questions is that "repairs" are not unethical, but that they must be mentioned in descriptions of the notes on price lists etc. That is a weak position at best because it ignores subsequent sales by parties who may legitimately not know of the alteration.

Grading will continue to be a matter of discussion, controversy, and unfortunately occasionally confusion. I hope that there is some food for thought here.

Rachel Notes

The Results of Thought

by Rachel Feller

"Leave the beaten track occasionally and dive into the woods. Every time you do so you will be certain to find something that you have never seen before. Follow it up, explore all around it, and before you know it, you will have something worth thinking about to occupy your mind. All really big discoveries are the results of thought."

Alexander Graham Bell

Alexander Graham Bell is often associated with only the invention of the telephone. This man, however, had a greater impact on the world than this one meteoric discovery. An inventor and humanitarian, he was also able to foresee many things which would not be established until well beyond his time. His summation of life and inventing can be used as a lesson to any of those who hear it, and serves as much as a lesson as an autobiographical statement about how he was able to lead a life which was so beneficial toward others.

Bell's appearance on the recent Royal Bank of Scotland's one pound note serves as a tool to inform others of his influence upon the world. His inventions and his kindnesses have outlived the man who created them, yet through these he has lived on.

Although he is mostly remembered for his inventions, more important to Bell were the things he did as a humanitarian. Many of his inventions were, in fact, as a result of these tendencies and desires to help other people. His most profound impact was most likely his influence upon the deaf. Until his death in 1922, he considered himself to be a "Teacher of the Deaf."

The Bell family had an interest in sound beginning with Alexander Bell, grandfather to the inventor of the telephone. Originally a Scottish shoemaker, an interest in drama brought Alexander Bell away from

this occupation. The money, however, was not sufficient for supporting a family, so he began to provide lessons in elocution and speech. With the publication of his book "The Practical Elocutionist," he and his son Melville were able to enter into London's intellectual community. As a Scottish man teaching the English how to speak properly, it is obvious that he had an extreme amount of ability. Melville was sent to Newfoundland to cure himself of a chest cough. There he worked as a shipping clerk and participated in theatre as his father had. Upon returning to London in 1842, he too was ready to impress the society with advances in speech and elocution. He helped to develop a Visible Speech system with 34 symbols that represented the lips, tongue, or voice so that a person who was deaf could still perfectly reproduce the sounds—even of a cough or a sneeze.

Melville Bell's influence on his son Aleck was strong, mostly in the categories of music, speech, and photography. He also drilled his phonetic alphabet into his son's head and often called upon him to demonstrate the benefits of his invention. Aleck's mother, a deaf woman named Eliza, taught her son the manuel alphabet for the deaf. As his first teacher of the piano, she provided him with lessons from acclaimed pianist Auguste Benoit Bertini, whose death ended the lessons before they had progressed

very far.

Aleck emigrated to Canada with his parents shortly after being enrolled in the University of London in an effort to protect his health as his two brothers, Ted and Melley, had both been lost to tuberculosis.

On November 25, 1857, Mabel Hubbard was born in Cambridge Massachusetts to Gardiner Greene Hubbard and Gertrude McCurdy. Following a bout with scarlet fever at age five, she had been left entirely deaf. Her parents had a fear of sign language isolating their daughter, and therefore she was brought up to read people's words through their enunciation instead of their hands. Mabel also read to increase her vocabulary. At 16, this bright young girl had a satisfactory speech that was pleasing to her mother and to her teacher, Mary True. Mary True had taught with Alexander Graham Bell at the Boston School for Deaf Mutes, and therefore she suggested that Mabel take private lessons with him.

The ten years between the two did not prevent them from becoming friends. When Aleck came to the Hubbard home for tea, he spoke of his desire to invent a multiple telegraph. In 1874, he became partners with Mabel's father. Her parents were not, however, as enthusiastic about his obvious interest with their daughter. Believing him to be 35, they felt that he was not suitable for their 17-year-old daughter. But they eventually

gave him permission to tell Mabel how he felt, and they became engaged.

Mabel was quite distressed at Aleck's tendency to have very late hours working that resulted in his sleeping through the morning. She presented him with a portrait she had promised shortly after their engagement—instead of being his human figure, she had portrayed a great white owl on the canvas. His tendency to jump from one subject to the other also caused great disturbance for Mabel and her parents who, eventually, advised her to present Aleck with an ultimatum; he had to complete his multiple telegraph before he married her.

The reactions of both sets of parents encourage a fury in Aleck. His mother, not wanting to have grandchildren who were deaf, had written to Mabel's mother, asking if Mabel's condition had been hereditary. But through it all, love prevailed, and so the two were married on 11 July, 1877 in the Hubbard's Cambridge home. Their first year of matrimony was spent in England, where their first child, Elsie May, was born on 8 May, 1878.

While living in Europe, Aleck demonstrated his telephone to such dignitaries as Queen Victoria.

Their second daughter, Marian (Daisy) Bell, was born in Washington on 15 February, 1880, upon following Mabel's parents' move there. Both daughters were raised to pursue knowledge. Beginning in the

mid-1890's, Bell began to have weekly gatherings in his home for all of the most prominent people in the scientific and technological communities. Guests would present papers or speeches, and at the end would be entertained as their host played for them on the piano.

Both girls were married to men who also exhibited strong talents. Elsie married Gilbert Grosvenor, the editor of *National Geographic Magazine*, who encouraged his spouse to write and explore on her own. Daisy was married to a botanist named David Fairchild, to whom she was introduced by her brother-in-law.

Bell was known for his surpassing skills as a teacher, and was even called upon by Helen Keller's father for assistance. He had instructed his secretaries to always give such patients instant access to him. Bell had an impact on many, many lives. When he began his work, 40% of deaf children were taught to speak. At his death, this had increased to 80%.

Alexander Graham Bell was known to have said "Always listen to children. . . they may have ideas we've never thought of." The first grandchild for Mabel and Aleck was Elsie's son Melville, who was born on 27 November, 1901, and soon became a dear friend to his grandfather. Five sisters followed, as well as a brother who died at age five. Daisy had two girls and a boy. All of the children were a great joy to their grandparents, who they called "Gammie" and "Gampie." The

children's "Gampie" was often one to tell long, fanciful stories, and as they got older, he provided them with scientific experiments to encourage their education.

Bell had many ideas that were well beyond his time—designs that can be seen to have foreshadowed the tape recorder, the computer, and the CD-ROM. His ability to believe in the impossible throughout his life—to try things that had never before been tried—helped create this great man to become such. Throughout Bell's life, he was a figure that represented several inventions. The first of these was when he was only eleven and developed a device to clean wheat, and the last came 64 years later, when he received a patent for the HD-4, fastest watercraft in the world. The most famous, of course, in the time between these two, was the telephone.

As he was trying to develop a multiple telegraph, Bell was inspired to invent a telephone purely by accident. In June of 1875, Bell and his assistant, Thomas Watson, were working on the multiple telegraph. Their current model included a long magnet with a series of metal reeds arranged across it. Bell asked Watson to vibrate one of the reeds to test if it was stuck or not, and in the process realized that the receiver in his room also vibrated even though the current between them had been shut off. He realized that the undulating current was the sole cause for this, and therefore was able to begin to imagine what a telephone could be.



Face and back, Royal Bank of Scotland £1 note.

As the years progressed, Bell designed punch-coded cards and also discovered that the most stable structure in nature was the tetrahedron, which led to experiments in flight and airplanes. He also experimented with an airplane hull that could take off under its own power with the use of an arrangement of hydrofoils. With the United States' entrance into the war in 1917, Bell also began to lend his expertise toward the war effort. On October 18, 1918, the HD-4 answered the call for submarine chasers, traveling at up to 71 mph and therefore claiming the title of fastest watercraft in the world.

Alexander Graham Bell can be remembered as well through his presence on the new Royal Bank of Scotland's one pound note. On the face of this beautiful note is a portrait of Lord Ilay, their first governor. Also on the face is a depiction of the telephone, with "Alexander Graham Bell 1847-1922" written to the upper right. Lower and to the right there is a hologram of the telephone with the initials "AGB." On the back of the note is a lovely montage portraying his life. The original design for the telephone sends sound waves to a prominent picture of an older

Alexander Graham Bell. The green intaglio is extended to represent various symbols of his life, including an image of two hands performing sign language.

On the left are three images, one of a young man on a telephone, another of a woman at a computer, and a final one below of an officer. Sound waves are represented across the note in blue lines, and tetrahedrons fill the background in the center of the note. His name is written across the bottom both in English and in the phonetic alphabet as designed by his father. His signature is also on the note, to the right of his name.

Alexander Graham Bell's belief in the impossible brought him not only to fame, but brought many people to a better life. His impact on our lives is appreciated, though often taken for granted, as well as our gratitude that he chose to believe in the impossible.

I would like to thank the Scottish Chapter of the I.B.N.S. for enrolling me as a member. I am honored by this action. I wish to thank, in particular, Ron Urquart and Robert Letham for their kindness in sending me the Alexander Graham Bell £1 Royal Bank of Scotland note.

*Letters to the Editor—
Continued from page 47*

grateful. I would be happy to steer anyone interested in visiting Cuba in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Rod Harada, I.B.N.S. #7019
691 Upper Blvd
Ridgewood, NJ 07450

Dear Editor,

I have an Iraqi note: p 48, light blue, King Faisal II as a young man at right, but the watermark of the two notes is not the same. Differences are: head, face, nose, and ear.

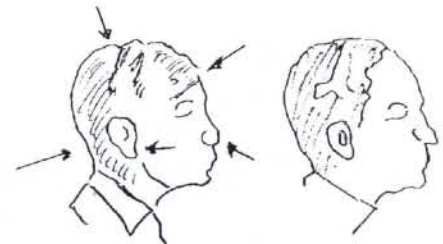
I am not able to send the note for duplication, but have drawn an example.

Can you tell me anything of the difference between the two faces?

I look forward to hearing from you. Meanwhile, best wishes.

Sincerely,

Massimo Ruggeri
Via V. Rossi, 160
611100 Pesaro Italy Tel, 410966



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Alert!

An Irish bank note collection has been stolen. The collection includes items from 1906 to modern day and has a value of about \$20,000.

Persons with any information about this theft should contact:

Pam West,

West Promotions

P.O. Box 257, Sutton Surrey SM3 9WW

Tel/Fax: 0181 641 3224

Board Meeting at Memphis
June 21, 1997 7:30 a.m.

Attending board meeting were, Larry Smulczenski, Guido Crapanzano, George Conrad, Steve Feller, Tony Piscotta, Mark Freehill, Bob Brooks, Steve Dowsett, Murray Hanewich, Brian Giese, Milan Alusic, Bill Pheatt, Fred Schwan, Steve Henke, Al Hortmann, Mel Steinberg, and Howard Daniel

The meeting was chaired by 1st Vice President Guido Crapanzano and assisted by 2nd Vice President Larry Smulczenski.

There was no formal agenda. Bill Pheatt informed the board that member Bill Bates died as Bill was leaving for Memphis. He also mentioned that Bill Bates was sent \$1,397.00 in U.S. dollars from U.K. Auctioneer James Cook. The placing of the money and notes were witnessed by a second party. The notes arrived, but the U.S. dollars were missing. After a lengthy discussion it was decided that the \$1,397.00 would be sent to the widow of Bill Bates from the I.B.N.S. Treasurer account.

More discussion followed about making some auction rules changes necessary to prevent this from happening in the future, so this situation can be averted. VP Guido Crapanzano appointed Bob Brooks, Milan Alusic, Brian Giese and George Conrad to come up with the necessary changes or additions.

At the Maastricht board meeting Mel Steinberg was asked to contact John Petit regarding numerous complaints against him. Mel received a list from John indicating that all known complaints against him were satisfied. It was the opinion of the board to allow John to be reinstated in the society should he apply for reinstatement.

George Conrad, member of the Awards Committee, reported that the awards for 1996 had been sent out. When 1997 awards are announced they will be sent out.

Steve Feller reported that the *Journals* are on schedule and the next one should be ready in late August or early September.

Bob Brooks reported the main problem in the auction is that submitters are not doing a very good job on grading their notes. He also reported there were some people who are slow payers on their bids.

Al Hortmann reported there was still an ample supply of books available. Sales go up after each mailing of flyers regarding the books.

Mark Freehill reported that the chapters in Australia are doing very well and they are having good fairs there.

William J. Sedor was approved for Life Membership. Meeting adjourned at 8.45 a.m.

Submitted by Milan Alusic, General Secretary

**1997 Show
Schedule**

**October 3-5—
The London
Congress**

Contact: Pam West—
0181-641-3224

**Nov. 12-16—
St. Louis Show**

Contact: Kevin Foley—
414-282-2388

**Nov. 16—The London
Paper Money Fairs**

The Bonnington Hotel,
92 Southampton Row

Contact: Pam West—
0181-641-3224

**Call for Nominations
for I.B.N.S.**

Elections for offices
of the I.B.N.S.
will occur early next year.

Please send nominations
by December 31 to

Larry Smulczenski,
Chair of the Elections Committee
Box 263, Shalimar, FL 32579
U.S.A.

or to

Steve Feller,
Physics Department
Coe College
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402
U.S.A.,

or to

Roy Spick,
112 Long Lane, Attenborough
Nottingham NG9 6BW
U.K.

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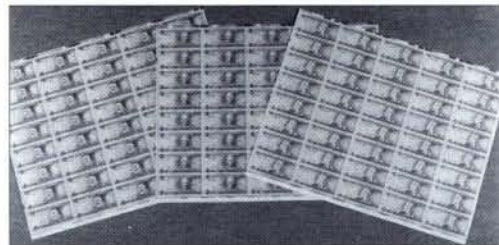
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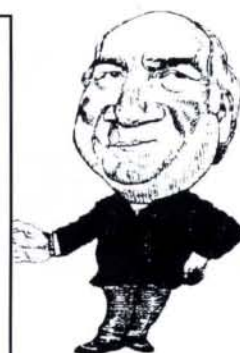
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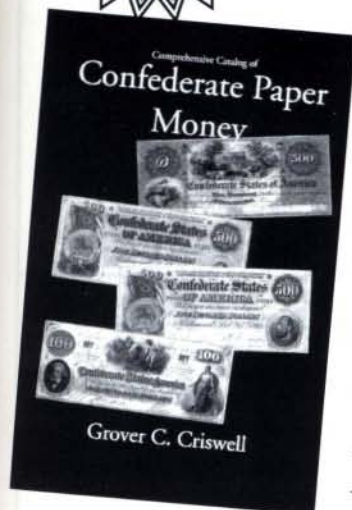
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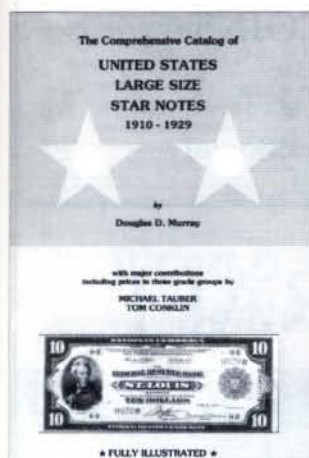
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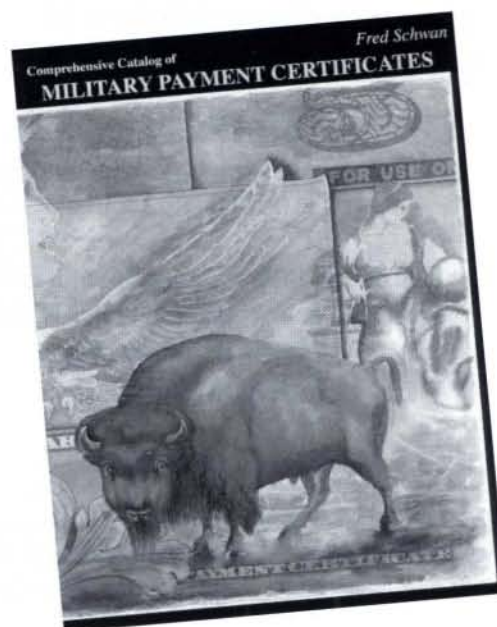


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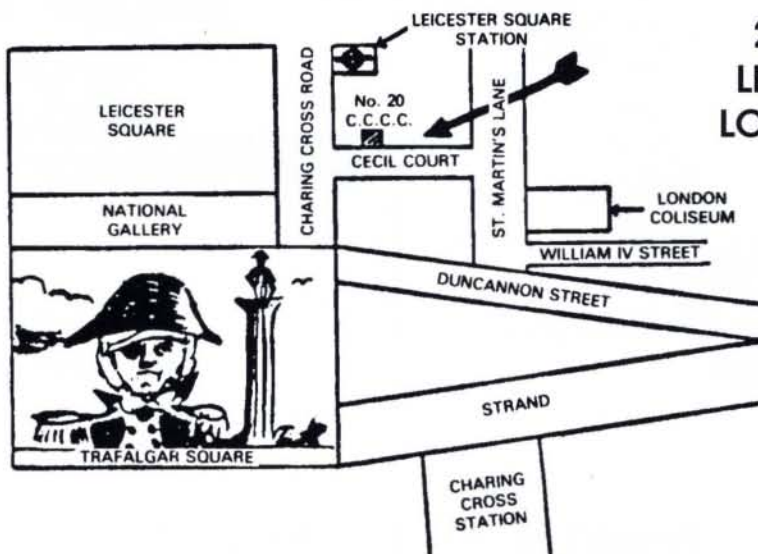
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